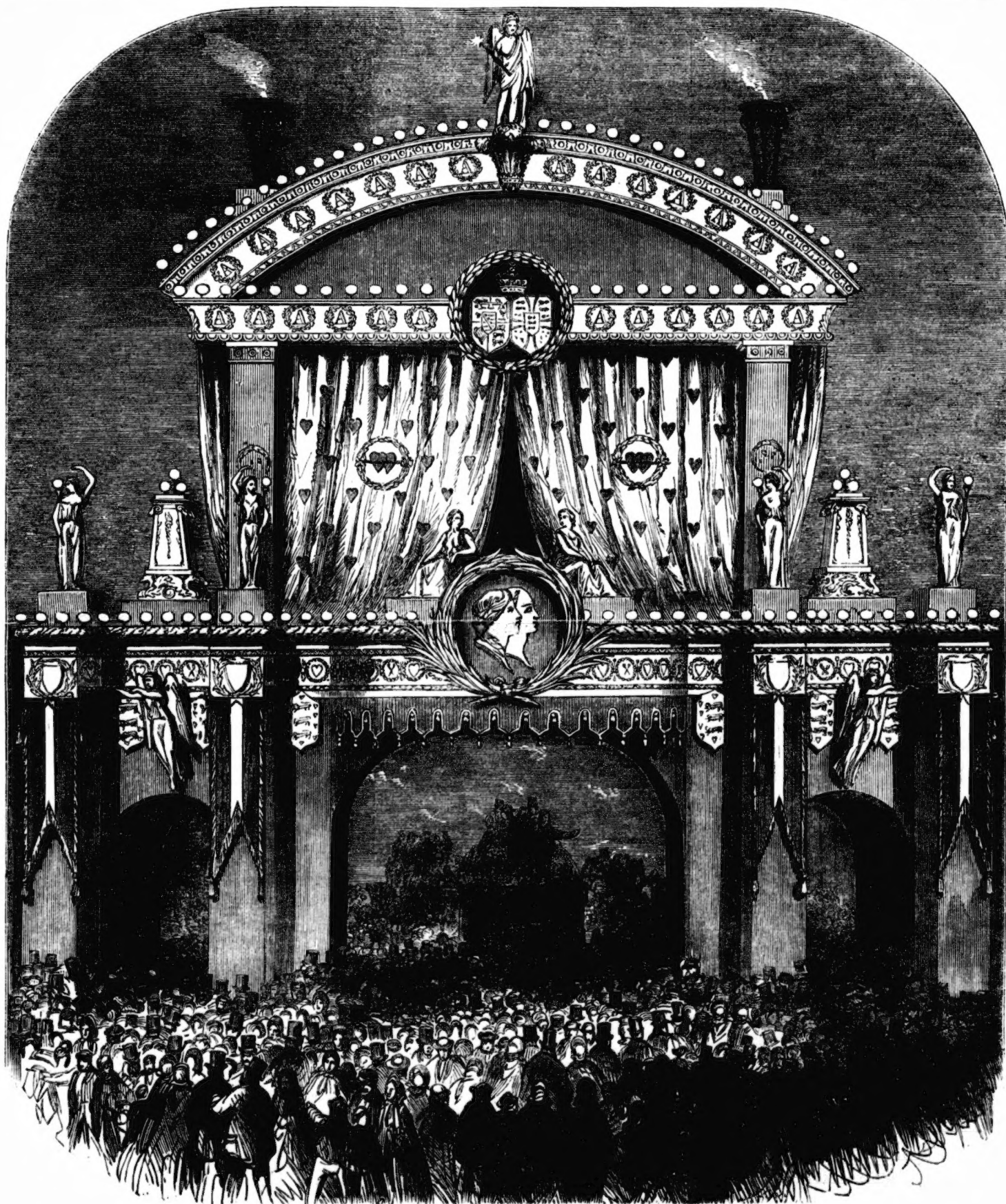


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TEMPLE BAR ON THE NIGHT OF THE ILLUMINATIONS IN HONOUR OF THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

'MORAL SUPPORT.'

THE free and easy attitude of England at the present moment, when the rest of the civilised world is so much disturbed, or so fearful of perturbation, naturally strikes the foreigner with a feeling more of provocation than of admiration. He does admire, no doubt; we rather like to think he envies; and we are surprised that he does not love a nation blessed with such unexampled peace, such imperturbable prosperity, as is ours. And it is very fair and reasonable for Dives, being himself comfortable, to lie under the shadow of his figtree and pipe admonitory songs to the poor; but, though Dives pipes, Lazarus is not bound to dance; and any Englishman, even, who attempts to judge fairly between our high, cold, prudential dealings with foreign affairs, will probably come to this conclusion:—That to be cold, to be prudent, to stand aloof from our neighbours in times of life-or-death effort for the good we ourselves enjoy, may be very fair and reasonable; but that somehow there is not much dignity about it—nothing to be at all proud of; and that the disgust of the Pole or the Frenchman at our "insular selfishness" may not be altogether a frenzy or an affectation.

We, at any rate, are not inclined so to regard it; and therefore when M. Larabit, spokesman of the committee appointed to report to the French Senate on the affairs of Poland, accuses Englishmen of "insincere agitation" in favour of that most injured country, we are neither resentful nor surprised. We have only to imagine ourselves Monsieur Larabit, and his conclusion appears tolerable enough. He is radically mistaken in assuming that the agitation is insincere; he credits us with a depth and unanimity of political purpose which we never possessed, in supposing that this agitation is intended to drive France into a war of liberation which we are too selfish to promote any further; but it must be confessed that when M. Larabit confines himself to an uncoloured statement of the position England has taken up in this matter, he presents us in an attitude which his countrymen cannot possibly respect. "The English press and public meetings," he says, "stir up opinion and overwhelm Russia with their indignant invectives, but the English Government, far from yielding to this impulse, has hitherto not even consented to a joint action of the Powers, and a motion brought forward in Parliament in favour of Poland was withdrawn after the explanations given by the first Minister of the Crown." No doubt that is very true, and we understand it well enough. M. Larabit and the senators who applauded his views see in all this nothing but the old perfidy and selfishness which have so long outraged the moral sense of France; we behold only another example of British rebellion against tyranny restrained by British prudence. The restraint is unheroic—that we must grant in full; and we must not be astonished or contemptuous because more ardent or more "benighted" foreigners give it a baser qualification. It is a penalty we must submit to, for the security of keeping out of quarrels abroad, just or unjust.

And then we have the comfortable reflection that, though we are destitute of the heroic and disinterested spirit which calls the world to arms in defence of oppressed nationalities, opinion in this country exercises a strong influence on the conduct of oppressors. The "moral support" of Great Britain is accredited with much power at present; and though we decline to interpose by arms anywhere, that is entirely at the service of freedom all over the world. Luckily for us, and luckily for freedom too, we have come into possession of this influence just when we have resolved to mind our own business in Europe. Long may it reign, for it is based on a happier political experience and truer political instincts than the modern world has been blessed with anywhere else. We confess to an apprehension, however, that the weight and the stability of this vaunted "moral support of the British Government" may be overrated. The moral support of a rich and wise old gentleman is valuable in private life sometimes; but if such a person were always coming in with that abstract, though solemn, boom without once taking his hands out of his pockets, he would soon become tiresome to one party in the strife and ridiculous to the other. Such benevolences, pure as they may be, inevitably come to be regarded in time as of no account, and the donor as selfishly impertinent. We doubt if it is a rôle which can long be maintained without such invigoration as is to be got by exercise with cudgels; and to do that in favour of any oppressed Poland or enslaved Italy would be a departure from our policy too wild for contemplation.

At present, however, no one, not even M. Larabit and his committee, can doubt the depth and sincerity of this nation's sympathy with oppressed peoples abroad, or that, with a little fanning from those in authority here, it is not capable of bursting into actual flame. It is the Government which refuses to join a generous Emperor in a Polish "crusade." Lord Palmerston has done it—much to the grief of that same generous potentate. Nor does the English Minister refuse upon the simple ground that he dare not take the risk; that his country has too much to lose, too little to gain, by entering upon a European war. This policy has to be explained otherwise. "Is it his aim, should war unfortunately arise out of these complications, to enshroud France in a kind of European network, in which her ambition would be chained down beforehand? Does he not wish to push her into war and leave her to fight it out as she can?" These are the questions France asks of herself, and she appears to believe pretty generally in an affirmative conclusion. The Emperor himself probably knows better: though what he may see in the policy of our Government may not be more pleasing to him personally. We prefer independent action on this occasion,

Diplomatic complications are declined, and therewith the chance of drifting into a conflict, which might end, after all, in no advantage to the freedom of Europe on the whole.

In spite of certain doubts, then, as to the meaning or the value of the "moral support" we bestow on Poland, we in England are satisfied that the course adopted by our Government is a wise one; and we have the more reason to be so since it does not appear that the French people are really more eager for a "crusade" in Poland than ourselves. It is impossible that they can more honestly desire to see her wrongs redressed; but, if it be a reproach to us that we are unwilling to send armies to her aid, it is one which we must endure, in dread of direr evils.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The news from Paris is still almost entirely confined to the affairs of Poland. There is no abatement of the excitement in favour of that unhappy country; and in the south the public feeling is being expressed by open demonstrations. On Monday night several thousands of the inhabitants of Marseilles assembled, and, overpowering the police, marched through the town to the residence of the Russian Consul, whom they greeted with cries of "Vive la Pologne!" Similar manifestations were preparing at Lyons and Bordeaux, and there was a talk of something of the kind in Paris.

ITALY.

Numerous arrests have taken place at Palermo, in consequence of the discovery of a conspiracy to establish the Sicilian Government upon Mazzinian principles. Among the arrested persons are Prince Mordinelli, Colonel Bentwegne, and the editors of the *Unita Politica* and the *Aspromonte*. Palermo is perfectly quiet, and the judicial authorities have commenced an inquiry into the matter.

On Monday, in the Chamber of Deputies, the Minister of the Interior declared that the persons arrested in Palermo were accused of participating in a conspiracy partly of a Bourbon and partly of a Mazzinian character.

The actual proportion of the loan which will be raised from the Italian public by national subscription will not exceed seventy-one millions. The Bank of Paris will contract for seventy-nine millions, and Messrs. Rothschild for 380 millions. The commission upon the contract is less than one per cent. Takers for the remaining 200 millions have been secured, but these will not be issued immediately.

ROME.

Cardinal Antonelli still, it appears, continues to tender to the Pope his resignation, and the Pope still declines accepting it. The Cardinal desires to be once for all free of the rival influence of Mgr. De Merode; but it is not so easy for the Pope, even were he thus inclined, to gratify Antonelli in this respect. In preparation for the worst, overtures have been privately made to several Cardinals to ascertain whether any would be willing to succeed Antonelli; but in each instance thus far the Prelates applied to have either declined point-blank, or demanded conditions which the Pope could not grant. The probability is that Antonelli will not leave office; and there are not wanting those who insinuate that the Cardinal has not the slightest serious notion of leaving it for the present.

The Roman Court has made some changes—but not in its policy, only in a few of its diplomatic representatives abroad. The new appointments have no European importance, and do not throw any light upon the probable issue of the embarrassment in which the Pope and Cardinal Antonelli find themselves mutually placed.

AUSTRIA.

The first sitting of delegates from Venetia took place at Vienna on Monday, in order to deliberate on the scheme of granting a provincial Constitution to Venetia.

PRUSSIA.

The Military Committee of the Chamber of Deputies continued its deliberation on Monday upon the amendments proposed by Herr von Forckenbeck to the law on the military organisation of the country. None of the Ministers were present.

Paragraph 3, as proposed by Herr von Forckenbeck, is worded as follows:—

The strength of the army in time of peace shall be fixed by a special law. The yearly Budget of military expenses shall be based upon this law.

This paragraph was, with a slight addition, almost unanimously agreed to, two members only voting against it. The Royal Commissioner who represented the Minister of War on the committee declared that the Government could not agree to the amendment of Herr von Forckenbeck, and would not bring forward an organic law on the military organisation. He further stated that by such discussions the conflict between the Government and the members would not be avoided, but, on the contrary, increased.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

In Saturday's sitting of the Chamber the President of the Council read a Message from the Throne, commencing upon the conduct of the Deputies, and dissolving the Chamber for refusing to vote the Budget.

CIRCASSIA AND RUSSIA.

The latest news from Constantinople respecting Circassia is, that four envoys have been dispatched by Russia to different parts of the country, seeking peace. The answer of the Circassians was, "It was we who, four years ago, proposed peace, and you would have no peace; now you propose peace, it must be that you can no longer make war. Treaties with you are more dangerous than war with you."

INDIA.

The spirit of revolt appears to be spreading on our north-east frontier, and what at first promised to be easily suppressed is every day presenting new difficulties. It has been found necessary to organise a system of locomotion for the troops and material, and much delay and difficulty is caused in consequence of the coolies having absconded in a body. Every day lost in striking a decided blow adds fuel, as it were, to the fire already kindled, but the most strenuous endeavours are being made by the Government to obviate these difficulties.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

GENERAL NEWS.

The news from America is interesting, though not striking in a military sense.

Public meetings had been held in Trenton, New Jersey, calling upon the State authorities to assert their State sovereignty in reference to the Conscription Act, and advocating a convention to devise means for restoring peace to the country.

The Secretary of the Navy had published official information from Admiral Porter of the loss of another Federal ram, the *Indianola*, twenty-five miles below Vicksburg. The *Indianola* had been sent to retake the Queen of the West, but was so fiercely attacked by that vessel, aided by three Confederate gun-boats, that, after an obstinate resistance of several hours, she was compelled to surrender. The whole of her officers and crew were made prisoners.

The Mobile Southern account states that the Confederate steamer *Nashville* grounded in front of Fort Macallister on the 1st inst., and was destroyed by shells from the Federal ironclads that were bombarding the fort. The steamers *Ruby* and *Douglas*, from Nassau, ran the blockade and entered Charleston Harbour a few days previously.

The privateer *Florida* had captured and burned the ship *Jacob Bell*, from China for New York, Jan. 12, in lat. 24, long. 65. Her

cargo is valued at 1,000,000 dollars. An excited meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce had taken place, to discuss the burning of the *Jacob Bell*. A committee was appointed to report what measures are proper to adopt concerning the burning of this ship by a pirate fitted out and supplied in England. The president of the Chamber intimated that a war with England was a possibility, and one not to be dreaded. England's neutrality was denounced, and the conduct of England towards American merchants declared to be a disgrace to the age. Efforts should be made to call the attention of British merchants to the circumstances, and it was thought that multitudes would respond.

MILITARY NEWS.

Owing to insuperable differences with General Hooker, General Sigel had resigned his command in the Federal army.

A detachment of eighty Confederate cavalry entered the Federal lines near Strasburg, Virginia, on the 25th, and captured twelve of the Federal pickets and a number of horses. They then retired beyond Woodstock, closely pursued by 500 Federal cavalry, who succeeded in recovering most of the prisoners and horses. Shortly afterwards the Confederates, having received reinforcements, turned upon the enemy, threw them into confusion, and drove them twenty miles, killing and capturing 200 of them in their flight.

The disagreement that existed between Generals Hunter and Foster in regard to the command of the Charleston and Savannah expeditions is stated to have been adjusted.

Rumours had been current for several days, both in Washington and New York, of a disastrous repulse of the Federal arms before Vicksburg, attended with an enormous sacrifice of life. The report was not traceable to any trustworthy source, but, nevertheless, it created considerable anxiety. Up to the evening of the 5th instant no further light had been thrown upon this matter.

The Federal expedition to open the Yazoo River was said to have proved successful. Six Federal gun-boats had reached Tallahatchie by way of the Yazoo. The Mississippi was rising so rapidly that the camps on Island 95 are seriously inconvenienced. The levees had been broken down, and the water was pouring over at a fearful rate.

General Rosecranz had advanced to Middleboro', half way between Murfreesboro' and Shelbyville.

One thousand Federal cavalry from Murfreesboro' had encountered the enemy at Bradyville. The Federals drove the antagonists out of the town, capturing seventy prisoners and a number of official documents.

The correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce*, at Hilton Head, writing on the 25th, states that no immediate attack will be made on Charleston, Savannah, or Wilmington; that an expedition is being fitted out at Port Royal, in which every conceivable engine of destruction will be concentrated to render it successful. Its destination is not known. It was reported that the Confederates had laid a network of torpedoes across the entrance to Charleston Harbour.

THE SENATE ON FOREIGN MEDIATION.

THE following resolutions had been reported by Senator Sumner, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, and adopted by the Senate:—

Whereas, it appears from the diplomatic correspondence submitted to Congress, that a proposition, friendly in form, looking to the pacification through foreign mediation, has been made to the United States by the Emperor of the French, and promptly declined by the President; and whereas, the idea of mediation or intervention in some shape may be regarded by foreign Governments as practicable, and such Governments, through this misunderstanding, may be led to proceedings tending to embarrass the friendly relations which now exist between them and the United States; and whereas, in order to remove for the future all chance of misunderstanding on this subject, and to secure for the United States the full enjoyment of that freedom from foreign intervention which is one of the highest rights of independent States, it seems fit that Congress should declare its convictions thereon, therefore

Resolved (the House of Representatives concurring)—That, while in times past the United States have sought and accepted the friendly mediation or arbitration of foreign Powers for the pacific adjustment of international questions, where the United States were the party of the first part, and some other Sovereign Power the party of the second part; and while they are not disposed to misconstrue the natural and humane desire of foreign Powers to aid in arresting domestic troubles, which, while in their influence, have afflicted other countries; especially in view of the circumstances, deeply regretted by the American people, that the blow aimed by the rebellion at the national life has fallen heavily upon the labouring population of Europe; yet, notwithstanding these things, Congress cannot hesitate to regard every proposition of foreign interference in the present contest as so far unreasonable and inadvisable, that its only explanation will be found in a misunderstanding of the true state of the question and of the real character of the war in which the Republic is engaged.

Resolved.—That the United States are now grappling with an unprovoked and wicked rebellion, which is seeking the destruction of the Republic that it may build a new Power, whose corner-stone, a cording to the confession of its chiefs, shall be slavery; that, for the suppression of this rebellion, and thus to save the Republic, and to prevent the establishment of such a Power, the National Government is now employing armies and fleets, in full faith that through these efforts, all the purposes of conspirators and rebels will be crushed; that, while engaged in this struggle, on which so much depends, any proposition from a foreign Power, whatever form it may take, having for its effect the arrest of these efforts, is just, in proportion to its influence, an encouragement to the rebellion and to its declared principles, and, on this account, is calculated to prolong and embitter the conflict, to cause increased expenditure of blood and treasure, and to postpone the much-desired day of peace; that, with these considerations, and not doubting that every such proposition, although made with good intent, is injurious to the national interests, Congress will be obliged to look upon any further attempts in the same direction as an unfriendly act, which it earnestly deprecates, to the end that nothing may occur abroad to strengthen the rebellion or to weaken those relations of good-will with foreign Powers which the United States are happy to cultivate.

Resolved.—That the rebellion, from its beginning and far back even in the conspiracy which preceded the outbreak, was encouraged by the hope of support from foreign Powers; that its chiefs frequently boasted that the people of Europe were so far dependent upon the regular supplies of the great Southern staple that, sooner or later, their Governments would be constrained to take side with the rebellion in some effective form, even to the extent of forcible intervention if the milder form did not prevail; that to rebellion is now sustained by this hope, which every proposition of foreign interference quickens anew, and that without this life-giving support it must soon yield to the great and paternal authority of the National Government; that, considering these things, which are aggravated by the motive of the resistance thus encouraged, the United States regret that foreign Powers have not frankly told the chiefs of the rebellion that the work in which they are engaged is hopeless, and that a new Government, such as they seek to found, with slavery as its corner-stone, and with no other declared object of separate existence, is so far shocking to civilisation and the moral sense of mankind that it must not expect welcome or recognition in the commonwealth of nations.

Resolved.—That the United States, confident in the justice of their cause, which is the cause also of good government and of human rights everywhere among men, anxious for the speedy restoration of peace which shall secure tranquillity at home and remove all occasion for complaint abroad, and availing with well-assured trust the final suppression of the rebellion through which all these things, rescued from present danger, will be secured for ever, and the Republic, one and indivisible, triumphant over its enemies, will continue to stand an example to mankind, hereby announces as their unalterable purpose that the war will be vigorously prosecuted according to the humane principles of Christian States until the rebellion shall be suppressed; and they reverently invoke upon the cause the blessings of Almighty God.

Resolved.—That the President be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions through the Secretary of State to the Ministers of the United States in foreign countries that the declaration and protest herein set forth may be communicated by them to the Governments to which they are accredited.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, WHITEHALL.—The three o'clock afternoon service on Sunday last was densely crowded, the Lord Privy Seal, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Cardigan, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and many other illustrious persons being present. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Professor Stanley, D.D., Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, and Chaplain to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who selected for his text the 2nd of St. John's Gospel, 1st verse, "And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee;" and in his eloquent discourse referred specially to the joyful celebration of the past week. The most marked attention was paid to the sermon of the rev. professor, at the conclusion of which the National Anthem was sung by the choir. The chorists of each verse was taken up by the whole of the vast congregation, the effect of which was singularly grand and effective, an additional verse being added for the occasion. Mr. Massey presided at the organ. The Chapel Royal, Whitehall, is free to the public always, though the fact appears not to be generally known; and preachers of eminence are invariably appointed by the Bishop of London for the three o'clock afternoon Sunday service.

THE INSURRECTION IN POLAND.

PROGRESS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Accounts from Poland are, on the whole, highly favourable to the progress of the insurrection. For once, a telegram arriving from Warsaw admits a Russian defeat, while Cracow and Lublin telegrams speak of several insurrectionary successes. The greater part of the forces of Langiewicz are now posted near Mielow. The insurrection is represented as gaining ground in the Government of Kalisz, and as having broken out in P. d. d. M. Benthowski, member of the Berlin Chamber of Deputies, and a distinguished officer of artillery, has arrived at Langiewicz's headquarters, and been appointed chief of the staff to the Dictator. This appointment has produced an excellent effect.

Mielowski has left Poland, and his doing so is thus explained in the Paris papers:—"This distinguished exile is, as most of our readers are probably aware, an intimate friend of Prince Napoleon; and the Prince has, justly or unjustly, acquired a reputation for vast ambition. Therefore, some of the Poles, it is said, persisted in regarding Mielowski as an emissary sent to prepare a way for Prince Napoleon to the throne of Poland; and it was judged more prudent that the Polish leader should return to France." There is probably little truth in this story. Russia is pouring considerable masses of fresh troops upon Poland and Lithuania. General Langiewicz has issued national bank-notes of the value of two Polish florins each. It is reported that the Grand Duke Constantine has left Warsaw for the purpose of visiting the principal theatre of the insurrectionary struggle. Another resignation by a Councillor of State is announced, this making the eighth member of the Council who has resigned during the last few days. This is in itself a significant fact; all the more so as those who have resigned are men professing Conservative opinions. The reports of actual engagements continue to be conflicting, but there is nothing which warrants a presumption that the insurgents are losing strength or determination. A telegram from Wilna states that a detachment of the Infantry of the Guard had been driven into an ambuscade three miles and a half from the town, and had lost there 250 men.

LANGIEWICZ AND HIS TACTICS.

GENERAL LANGIEWICZ having been appointed Dictator of Poland by the revolutionary committee at Warsaw, a step which has been approved by the Poles in Paris and elsewhere, has now become the most prominent figure on the scene of the desperate struggle now going on in Russian Poland. The General has issued a proclamation organising a Provisional Government, and nominating two of his coadjutors, Jezioranski and Waligorski, to the rank of Generals. He appears to act with political prudence as well as military skill and courage. Garibaldi, it appears, wrote to him lately, offering the aid of his arm, and assuring him of his devotion to the cause. The answer of the Polish Chief was couched in terms of much affection, but he declined the offer for the present. He had need of the co-operation of all classes in Poland, and Garibaldi's presence might, for various reasons, alarm the public mind, and give to a movement which is so truly patriotic a revolutionary character.

Fights abound in every direction, and the rebellion is deepening and extending as time rolls on. This is hardly a favourable moment for casting a retrospective glance at the events of the past; but if the Polish tactics have been so far successful a survey of their achievements may be interesting as a key to the probabilities of the future. We have selected for this purpose the military career of General Langiewicz, as being the most prominent instance of guerrilla warfare under the peculiar circumstances of the case.

The first reunion of the detached bands in the south was brought about at Wozchok, a little town forty miles to the south of Radom, situated in the midst of wooded hills, and possessed of mines and ironworks. The place afforded a favourable opportunity for the organisation of the corps, both in point of equipment and drill. The General at that time could hardly muster 1000 muskets in his camp. As for the rest of his force, consisting of about 5000 men, they had to be armed with scythes and swords, the greater part the production of their own hands in the forests of Wozchok. On the 1st of February the General found himself attacked by a column, which had been advanced from Kielce, about twenty miles to the south-west of Wozchok; and, although he had the best of the fight, the attack of another column on the day after caused him to remove his quarters to a safer and less accessible locality. The second Russian force had been dispatched from Radom, and the two columns were intended to charge the General simultaneously; but the Russian commanders find it impossible, as a rule, to keep their appointments and effect their moves with the promptness which forms the indispensable requisite of a guerrilla war. Slow marching is not peculiar to Russian troops; but, hampered by the bad roads of a Polish spring, the tardiness or the violent hatred of the inhabitants, they never reach their destination in time to catch the bird before it has flown.

Leaving his old haunt on the 3rd of February, the General moved on to the lion's very den. In a day's march he reached the Lysa Gora hills, pitched tents at Slupia and Szwet-Krzyz, took up a favourable position twenty-five miles south of Wozchok, and a little less to the east of Kielce. He was now protected by the cliffs and precipices of a limestone ridge; but, finding himself in the immediate vicinity of Kielce, a centre of Russian operations, his quarters exposed him to the inconvenience of constant sorties and skirmishes with the enemy. Again, however, he was allowed nine days' respite before the Muscovites could be brought up to the charge. It was only on the 11th that the Russians, approaching in two columns from Kielce and Radom, first assailed the Monastery of Szwet-Krzyz (Holy Cross), and a few hours later the Camp of Slupia. Langiewicz, now in possession of eight guns and 1000 rifles more, all of which had been forwarded to him from Austria in the interval, repulsed the attack with considerable success, and thrusting the enemy out of his way, hastened in a day and night to Staszow, about forty miles to the south of Slupia, and twelve miles' distance from the Austrian frontier. His object in this precipitate march was to keep his communications open with Austria—the storehouse and great arsenal of insurrection in the earlier stages of the movement. Hardly had he arrived at Staszow when the enemy, advancing his columns on the east and west of his position, endeavoured to occupy the Vistula line, surrounding the General at the same time with a whole cordon of detachments. His friends were getting anxious for his safety, and the Cracow papers calculated the consequences of a defeat. Russian indifference, however, materially contributed to his escape. Arriving at Staszow on the 13th, the Russian Generals did not grudge him a leisure of several days before returning to the charge. Again the interval was turned to account by the General for procuring arms and shoes, and increasing his cavalry to a fine force of a thousand and more. On the night of the 17th Russian preparations were so far advanced as to allow of the dispatch of a reconnoitring party to Staszow. Of 3000 men who entered the place, 150 were left upon the spot.

On the following day the Polish camp was broken up. Finding the Russians gathering round him, the General retraced his steps towards the north, and, suddenly turning to the west, approached Kielce at a distance of seven miles or thereabouts. The tactics of the General, as the reader will have perceived by this time, may be reduced to a simple formula. In a secure position he calmly awaits the arrival of Russian troops advancing from all points of the compass. The best masses being at length brought up in sufficient numbers to venture an attack, the Poles, after an indecisive conflict of an hour or two, march off in perfect order, and, hastening over forty miles with the utmost rapidity, take up another position where the old game begins afresh. In this wise a week or half a week's rest is always gained for the prey, the hunter dragging slowly along his wearied limbs and spending all his time in marching after the game he cannot overtake.

Passing by Kielce, at a distance of a few miles, the General, on the 18th, intercepted a party of Russians returning from Mielow with 130 prisoners, the proceeds of a raid among the nobles of the district. The surprise took place at Kioz, about seventy miles to the west of Staszow, and twenty-four hours after the fight of the preceding morning. For the next six days the nimble guerrilla disappears from the scene. Dividing his force into half a dozen corps, his manoeuvres must have infested the entire distance between Kielce

and Cracow on the one, and Kielce and Czenstochow on the other. In the meantime the Russians, who had vainly sought him at Staszow, were rushing on from the east, while Czenstochow, the most strongly fortified of the Cz. p. d. d. towns, and to Olenka, on the Galician frontier, and Wolbrun, Pila, and Zamo sie, in the region between Cracow and the southern highway. Once more the net was being closed in upon General Langiewicz. From the south the four towns above named had been occupied by the Russians; from the east his Staszow friends were approaching as fast as nature permitted; in the west toward the Russian frontier, the north being blocked up by the garrisons of Czenstochow and Kielce, which, it was to be feared, might succeed in restoring communication between each other. To prevent this disaster Jezioranski, one of his Captains, had been stationed at Wioszczowa, midway between the two points d'appui of the Russian force; and, before he could be overpowered by the enemy, who was now forcing his way on to the north, General Langiewicz, on the 23rd, succeeded in effecting a junction with his trusty follower between Wioszczowa and Malogozec. The day before another transport of Polish prisoners had been recaptured by him at Cenciny, about eight miles' distance from Malogozec. Twenty-four hours after his reunion with Jezioranski the Russians drew near from Kielce (east), Cenciny (south-east), and Biezy (outh), each party consisting on this occasion of 6000 men or more. As usual, Langiewicz, retreating to the shelter of the hills and the woods, fought a party only of the Russians at a time. After a bloody skirmish of several hours, the drawn fight having yielded no decisive result, he divided his troops into two bodies, marching himself towards Cenciny, and dispatching Jezioranski in the opposite direction, towards Wioszczowa and the west. The Russians, once again disappointed in their hopes, retired from the battle-field towards the east, apparently desirous of placing themselves under the protection of the Kielce guns.

Twenty-four hours later (25th) Langiewicz arrived without molestation at Slupia, twenty miles to the south of Malogozec.

The 28th found General Langiewicz at Zarki, thirty miles to the west of Wozdawa, and in the immediate vicinity of the railway line. He had now placed himself on the very road between Czenstochow and the south, a line on which the troops of the enemy passed up and down day after day. It appears he had been preceded in this direction by some of his Captains, and so when he arrived upon the spot the game was opened at the same time on several points. The chief encounter took place at Mryg od (variously given as the fight of Zymbkowski, Miskow, or Mzyglod), which, it is almost superfluous to remark, once more resulted in nothing. There was the customary volley of the Russian infantry, the canister shot of the guns, and the aimless galloping about of the Cossack riders. There was the same dread of the Polish scythes among the Russians and the same eagerness to come to close quarters among the Poles. But, if the hill cannot go to the man, neither can the wood to the field. The Russians, in accordance with their old idiosyncrasy, declined to charge the Polish steel; the Poles, who would be glad enough to come to blows, had a natural aversion to traverse the distance between the forest and the hostile lines. So, after blazing away for an hour and sending a few companies to the front, the contending parties withdrew in opposite directions. Langiewicz, however, availed himself of the opportunity to demolish the railway bridge at M. zlow and tear up the line for some distance. As a matter of course the Russians set fire to Mzyglod. This occurred on the 1st of March. On the 2nd the Russian corps proceeded in the direction of Olkusz (to the south), Langiewicz following close on their heels, and, on the 4th, taking up a position in the ravine between Skala and Ojcow, eight miles distant from the city of Cracow. Another attack being probable, he left Jezioranski to ward off the enemy, retreating himself some little way to the east. Jezioranski having diverted the attention of the enemy, Langiewicz, owing to the peculiar advantages of his manoeuvres, returned at the very nick of time to take the Russians by surprise. Skala was burnt; but the charge of the Kassinsaires (southerners) mowed the Russians in swaths. Prince Bragatow fled to Sienolki, and, such was the terror among the Russians, that Wolbrun, Olkusz, and Pila being instantly evacuated, his only hope of escape consisted in a retreat to Mielow. Once more the Cracow frontier was in the hands of the insurgents, and the Polish eagle planted up in face of the Austrian coat of arms.

The total of Langiewicz's forces in the triangle between Kielce, Czenstochow, and Cracow, is estimated at more than 12,000 men—an army hardly inferior in point of numbers to the Russians opposed to him.

Accounts received in Paris through Cracow to the 10th inst., state that the Russian columns which were defeated on the 4th by Jezioranski at Piskown, and by Langiewicz at Skala, retreated in the greatest disorder. Had not the ammunition of the insurgents been exhausted the Russians would have been annihilated. These victories are to be attributed to the scythemen. They inspired such terror that the Russians did not consider themselves safe until they arrived at Sienolki. On the 6th inst. the entire country between Olkutz and Protowice was occupied by the insurgents.

MANIFESTO OF GENERAL LANGIEWICZ.

The following is the full text of the manifesto of General Langiewicz on assuming the dictatorship:—

Fellow-citizens.—The most devoted children of Poland have commenced, in the name of God, the combat provoked by the violence and oppression exercised by the Muscovite domination; they have commenced it against the eternal enemy of liberty and civilisation—against the Muscovite intruder, the oppressor of our nation; they have commenced it for the liberty and independence of our country. In the unfavourable circumstances in the midst of which our enemy has provoked the explosion of the insurrection, by the excess of oppression, the contest, begun with empty hands against the armed multitudes of Russia, has continued not only for nearly two months in a great portion of our country, but increases and spreads further and further, thanks to the activity and devotion of the whole people, who are resolved to become free or to perish. Polish blood flows in torrents upon many fields of battle; it flows in the streets of our towns and villages, which the Asiatic enemy is utterly destroying, massacring inoffensive inhabitants and abandoning to pillage the remains of their possessions. In view of this life-and-death struggle, in view of the murders, pillage, and flames with which our enemy marks his route, Poland sees with grief, by the side of the gravest devotion and enthusiasm of her children the want of a military and devoted leadership, capable of preventing the scattering of the forces which have been called forth and of arming those who still slumber. It follows, from the general situation of affairs, as well as from the nature of the struggle which is proceeding, that outside the camp of the insurgents there is not to be found throughout the whole territory of the country a spot where a central power publicly avowed could establish itself; and this is the reason why the secret Provisional Government which emanated from the former secret Central Committee has not been able to prevent itself in open day before the nation and the whole world. Although there are in the country men who are far above myself in capacity and merit—although I appreciate the extent and the gravity of the duties which in a position so difficult weigh on the supreme national power—I assume, nevertheless, with the consent of the Provisional National Government, the supreme dictatorship, prepared to deposit it, when we shall have shaken off the Muscovite yoke, in the hands of the representatives of the people. I assume it in consideration of the urgency of the circumstances which imperatively demand a prompt remedy, in consideration of the necessity of increasing the forces of the nation by the concentration of the civil and military powers in one hand in this murderous contest against hostile troops directed by one sole will. In referring to myself the immediate direction of military operations, or in claiming the power of transferring, if necessary, the military command-in-chief to other chiefs in provinces which will be named, I deem it useful at present to confide all the civil administration of the insurrection, as well as that of the freed territory, to a private civil Government, which will act under my inspiration and control. The powers and the organisation of this Government will be indicated in a special publication. In taking the dictatorship I commence nothing new, but simply finish the work commenced by the National Provisional Government. I confirm, then, and proclaim again, in all their entirety, the fundamental principles expressed in the manifesto of the Provisional Government dated Jan. 22, in the name of which the flag of the national contest for liberty and independence was raised, especially the liberty and political equality of all the sons of Poland, without distinction of (religion, of condition, or of birth; also the giving, under conditions, of the landed property, subjected until now to rents or charges, to the rural population, with indemnity to the proprietors, who will be saved from ruin out of the funds of the State.

And now, peoples of Royal Poland, of Lithuania, and of Ruthenia, you who form one nation, in the name of God I call you once more to universal and immediate insurrection against Muscovite oppression and barbarity. The concord of all the children of Poland, without distinction of class or belief, the community and universality of efforts and sacrifices, and the unity of

the object will raise the scattered forces to a power which will be fatal to the enemy; they will procure independence for our country, liberty and happiness for our descendants, and will assure immortal glory to those who may meet the death of heroes in this sacred struggle. To arms, brothers! to arms for the independence of the country!

General MARYAN LANGIEWICZ, Dictator.

Head-quarters, Goscza, March 10.

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON IN FEBRUARY, 1863.

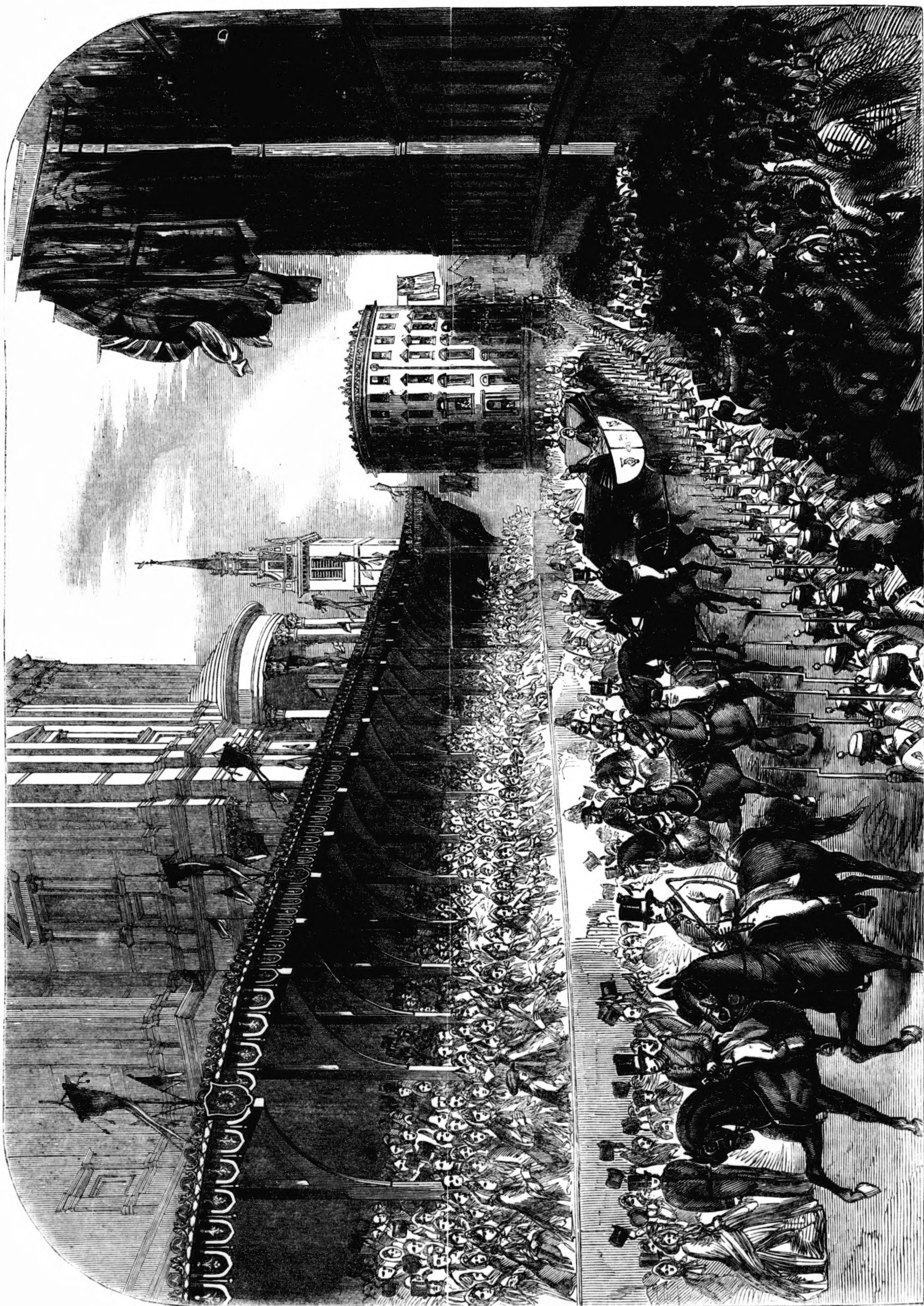
New York exhibits no outward signs of the war and desolation that afflict the land. Washington, on the contrary, betrays them at every turn. The long straggling avenues, planned in a spirit of magnificence, but so meagrely executed, swarm with soldiers, camp-followers, forage-waggons, ambulances, and all the aids, instruments, and paraphernalia of strife. Thousands of young men, in grey-blue uniforms, swagger about the streets or lounge at the doors of the hotels, with the fresh jauntiness of the inexperience that has never yet confronted a foe; while mingled among them, at intervals painfully frequent, are to be seen the maimed veterans of the struggle—the men who can fight no more, the maimed and mutilated victims of "glory" and "patriotism," limping along on crutches, and turning their sunken eyes towards the by-standers with a piteous expression of contumace, as if to crave the sympathy of all who are still in the enjoyment of their limbs and faculties. The mud in all the main avenues is ankle deep, for there has been a heavy fall of snow, six inches thick, that only lay one day upon the ground before it began to yield to the fervid rays of a summer-like sun and the breath of a wind as warm, if not as balmy, as that of an English June. Through the rivers and lakes of slush pass and re-pass, at all hours of the day and night, immense droves of cattle, as many as 4000 or 5000 at a time, some going into Virginia for the use of the army of the Potomac, and some destined for the consumption of the 60,000 men retained for the defence of the capital, together with an almost continuous procession of supply and forage-waggons, each drawn by six mules, and driven by a negro or an Irish teamster, shouting and swearing as he goes. On any ordinary roads in England or in Europe, two mules would be amply sufficient for any vehicle of the kind, however heavily laden, but in the deep, greasy, tenacious mud of this region, six are none too many for the task they have to perform. Never, perhaps, in any city of the world was so much horse and mule flesh to be seen as in Washington at this moment, and such miserable horses as never before enriched a mob of contractors, or impoverished a nation.

The soldiers are for the most part as rough and shaggy as the mules. Raw-beds of eighteen and twenty form the bulk of the army that defends Washington against the imminent aggression of General Lee. These youths revel and riot in their premature manhood, and exhibit their exuberant strength and insolence in drunken and other orgies that seem to have no limits but their purses. To invade the "greenbacks" out of their pockets and those of their officers a whole army of brazen countenances and "painted Jazabels" has invaded the city, who ply their trade by advertisement in the newspapers and by public exhibition in the streets after a fashion so gross that it would shame even the Haymarket. At every street corner, and place of public resort are to be seen printed notices, warning simple-minded strangers against the multitudinous thieves who have congregated here from all parts of the world. In those "howling caravansaries," the leading hotels, where the utmost possible discomfort is paid for at the highest possible price, and where the bad cookery and the bad wine are only equalled by the bad accommodation and the bad attendance, are posted up at every angle of the vestibules, corridors, and reception-rooms conspicuous warnings against the hotel thieves who have come hither from England and France, as well as from New York, to break into ladies' bedrooms at the dinner hour and decamp with their jewellery. Three days ago one of them succeeded in making off with the money and private papers of Mr. Ex-Secretary Cameron, while that unsuspecting diplomatist was quietly dining at Willard's. Another class of thieves, not so designated in police society, but worthy of the name—the people who sell the Government rotten and unseaworthy steamboats for the conveyance of troops and stores; shoes for the army, that wear out in one day's march; and shoddy garments, nether and upper, that rot like blotting-paper in a shower of rain; the "respectable" people who plunder under form of law and with the decent observances of trade, feed daily at Willard's and other public places, and make themselves conspicuous by the magnificence of their talk and behaviour. Then there are the "wire-pullers" and "log-rollers;" that is to say, men who have schemes before Congress, and who "engineer" their bills through both Houses by the vulgar agencies of dinner and drink, as well as by other means not so visible to spectators, though perhaps more satisfactory to such members of Legislature as are neither too honest nor too proud to be purchased.

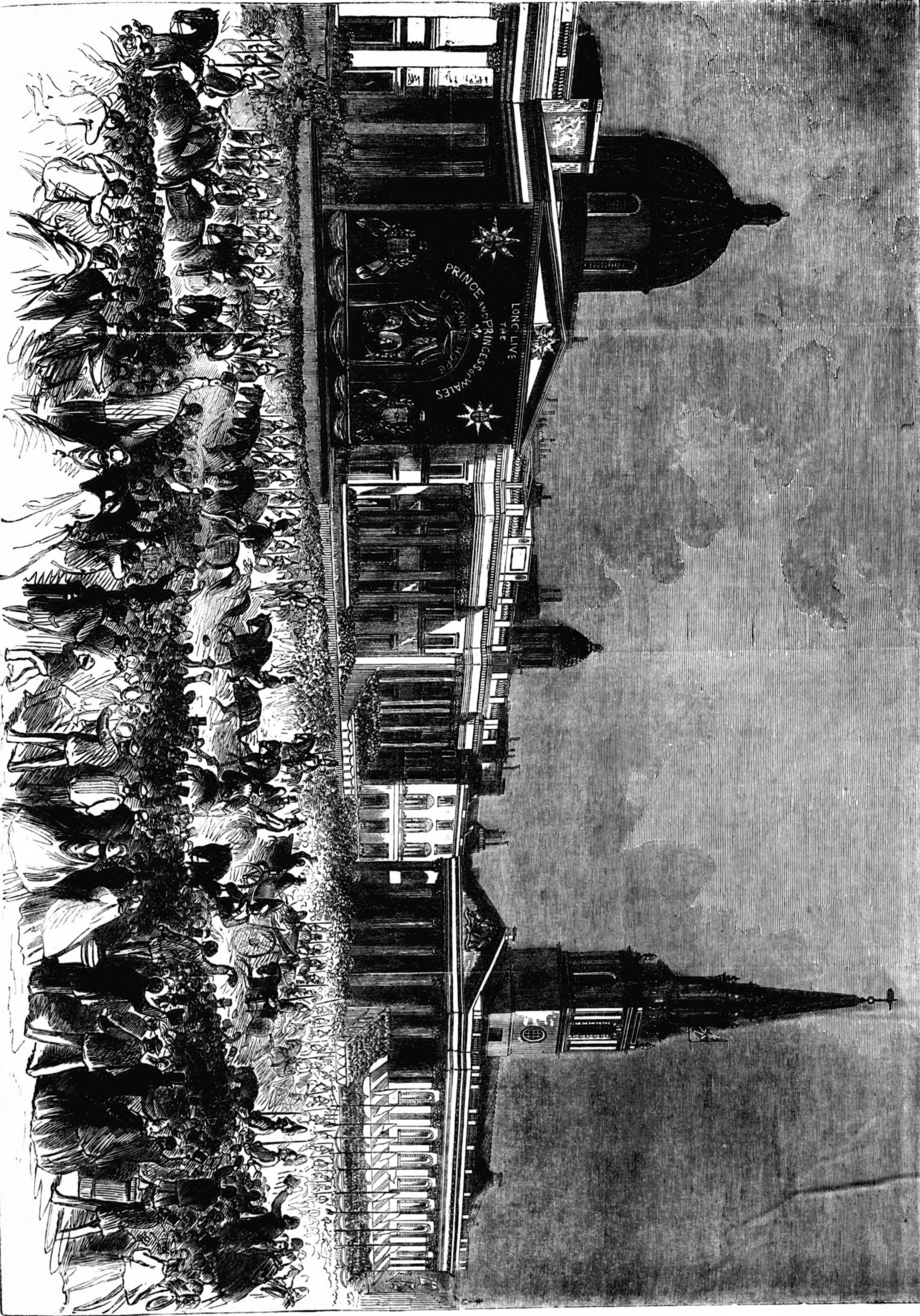
But the rogues and rascals of Washington are equalled by its misery. There are estimated to be no less than 40,000 sick, wounded, and mutilated soldiers within the district of Columbia, receiving such poor relief and consolation as circumstances will allow, not one twentieth part of whom will ever again be in a condition to fight the battles of the North. In addition to these are the negroes, or "contrabands," as they are called in the slang which General Butler originated and made popular, who have escaped from Maryland and Virginia into the Federal lines, and are maintained by the Government at a heavy cost. Many of these poor creatures are able-bodied men, for whom no work is to be found even as teamsters—an occupation for which they are well fitted; but a large proportion are aged and infirm persons and young children. All of them are huddled together in wretched shanties at a remote corner of the town. Smallpox is making fearful havoc among them, and thence extending its ravages among the white population. Washington, though an immense city upon the map, is not sufficiently built up to accommodate the 250,000 people who have been drawn within its focus by the necessities of the war and the Government. Its drainage is so miserably defective that the wonder ought to be that it has not long ago been the theatre of pestilence as well as of war, and thus suffered the second as well as the first scourge of humanity.

THE PROJECTED RAILWAY OVER THE SIMPLON.

THE Paris correspondent of a Brussels journal writes:—"On Sunday last the scheme for the passage of the Alps by railway over the Simplon was submitted to the Emperor as the Tuileries. The plans are executed by the company of the Italian line; and the president, one of the directors, and M. Lohaire, the engineer, had the honour of presenting it. The Grand Diana Gallery had been placed at the disposal of these gentlemen for the exhibition of the plans, which are 40 metres in length. Some workmen had arranged along the whole length of this celebrated gallery wooden seats and cross-roads, by which were shown the general plan and outline of the route, so that the Emperor and the persons who accompanied him could in walking follow upon the maps the projected line from Duomo d'Ossola, in Italy, to Brigues, in the Valais, and so effect, in imagination, an actual passage of the Alps, upon a reduced scale, it is true, of two thousand. This great work was commenced on the 1st of August last year, and ended on the 7th. About forty agents, divided into two brigades, one turning to the north and the other to the south of the Alps, under the leadership of two engineers, have during four months explored the mountain, and traced the plan of the future railway which is to pass over rocks, cross torrents, fill up valleys, gorges, and precipices, before which science does not hesitate. The stimulus of having a great work to accomplish has alone sustained the picked men to whom the task was confided. They set up shelters and encampments in woods hitherto unexplored, carrying on their backs beds, clothing, and provisions, as they had often to live two or three leagues from any dwelling. It was frequently necessary to lower by ropes down the precipices the men who had to prepare the plans and empty space, and the snow and avalanches more than once threatened to stop them summarily in their work. The result has been to put before the Emperor 80 kilometres of iron-way in the Helvetic Alps, 44 of which will be covered over, 23 in tunnels, and 21 in galleries. All these passages are ventilated either by shafts for the tunnels or lateral openings for the galleries. These openings, cut at different points into arcades, have a startling appearance. They are veritable promenades, 1000 metres above the sea, offering the same security as those of the Rue de Rivoli, which they resemble, but presenting a more picturesque and varied panorama. The execution of the plan, according to the authors, would occupy less than five years. At the end of this month the complete project of crossing the Alps by the Simplon will be officially submitted to the Governments of France, Italy, and Switzerland. The estimated cost of this great project, including the fixed and rolling material, the interest of the capital employed, &c., is 72,000,000.



RECEPTION OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA.—THE ROYAL CARRIAGE PASSING THROUGH ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.



RECEPTION OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA.—THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS PASSING THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

FRANCE AND POLAND.

DIPLOMATIC documents relating to Poland have been laid before the French Senate.

Among them is a despatch of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, dated the 26th of March, 1853, addressed to Count Walewski, at that time Ambassador of France in London. The despatch calls to mind that in 1831 the Emperor Nicholas released himself from the obligations towards Europe imposed upon him by the treaties of 1815 with regard to Poland. The great Powers fully understood the danger which might arise by the aggrandisement of Russia, and the advantage to be derived from returning to the treaties prohibiting Russia to possess the kingdom of Poland otherwise than as a distinct State. The despatch then says that "the time appears to have arrived for reminding Russia of the obligations she has contracted towards Europe in reference to Poland."

M. Drouyn de Lhuys concludes by requesting Count Walewski to ascertain the opinion of Lord Clarendon upon the subject.

Another despatch, addressed by Count Walewski to Count Persigny on the 15th of October, 1855, states that Lord Clarendon entertained similar views upon the expediency of taking advantage of passing events to bring about as far as possible some change in favour of Poland. His Lordship, however, did not think it necessary to impose such an arrangement as an absolute condition for the re-establishment of peace with Russia.

Another despatch communicated is from M. Drouyn de Lhuys to M. de Talleyrand, dated the 17th of February, 1863, the most important parts of which are as follows:—

"I recently felicitated myself again with the Comte de Goltz upon the calm which had not ceased to reign in the Grand Duchy of Posen. The intelligence which I have received since then from our consulate at Danzig, and that which you yourself have transmitted to me, did not point to any symptom of agitation in that province, and I can scarcely account for the reasons which have determined the Cabinet of Berlin to depart from that neutrality which circumstances enabled her to preserve.

"The interest of Prussia was, as it seems to us, to maintain that attitude of observation while no imperious necessity obliged her to adopt another. The greater the reserve that she had shown the more would she have succeeded in circumventing and neutralising the influence of the struggle going on on the other side of her frontier, and preventing it from having any effect on the population of Posen.

"What must be, on the contrary, the effects of the arrangement which the Cabinet of Berlin adopted, but to agitate men's minds and create real dangers where none existed, and where, for the present at least, there was no serious difficulty to overcome.

In our eyes, Monsieur le Baron, the gravest inconvenience of the resolution taken by Prussia was that of giving in some manner the Polish question itself. Until now the movements which have taken place have not been encouraged by the notabilities of the country nor by the emigration; they have not the character of a resistance to the recruitment order set by the Russian Government, the insurrection was entirely local, it continued to be concentrated in the provinces of the kingdom of Poland.

By interfering in a manner more or less direct in the conflict the Cabinet of Berlin accepted not only the responsibility of the measure of repression adopted by Russia, but it awakened the idea of a solidarity among the different populations of ancient Poland. It seemed to invite the separate members of that nation to oppose their union to that of their Governments; to attempt, in a word, a truly national insurrection; and while it gratuitously threw itself into grave embarrassments, it created a situation which from this day will be a cause of inquietude, and may become a source of complications for the Cabinets.

Another despatch is from M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the Duc de Montebello, dated the 18th of February, and after a few preliminary remarks proceeds thus:—

"The Government of His Majesty, Monsieur le Duc, whether previous to the events actually taking place, or since they have arisen, has always been guided by the loyal and sincere desire to save the Cabinet of Russia, as much as it depended upon us, from the embarrassments inherent in the affairs of Poland. Far from seeking to disturb men's minds we have neglected nothing that could calm them. Scrupulously faithful to the duties of a regular government, we are inspired above all with the sentiments of esteem and friendship which have prevailed for many years in the relations between the two Cabinets.

But the Polish question possesses, more than any other in France, the privilege of awakening sympathy equally lively among all parties; they are in that respect unanimous; the language of the most zealous defenders of monarchial and religious ideas differs only in degree from that of the most advanced organs of democracy.

What can we oppose to publications which place themselves on the ground of public law, and which do no more than lay claim to maintain the most incontestable principles? Not only are we disarmed in presence of such writings, but, drawing ourselves our power from public opinion, we are obliged to respect sentiments which have been for many years those of the country.

The representatives of Europe assembled at the Congress of Vienna submitted to that impression and accepted it in a certain measure when, seeking to repair the evils of Poland, one of the principal objects of their solicitude, they placed at the head of a general act, designed to serve as a basis of a new political system, stipulations which settled the fate of that country.

I have said, as to the rest, to the Ambassador of Russia, that we would faithfully observe the conduct which we had traced out for ourselves, and we would loyally fulfil the duties which result from the friendly character of our relations with the Cabinet of St. Petersburg; that, in fine, that we should not cease to recommend moderation, and loudly condemn everything which resembled proceedings which had anarchic and revolutionary tendencies; but I did not conceal from the Baron de Bismarck that, in spite of us, events might happen which would become more or less embarrassing, that the pressure of public feeling would be more imposing in proportion as circumstances became more grave, and we could only wish that, in the means which the Russian Government might have recourse to, nothing might happen that would render our position more difficult with respect to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, to ourselves, and to Europe.

Since the accession of the Emperor Alexander great progress has been made in Russia. We have been the first to applaud it, and to render homage to a liberal policy. All that, moreover, instead that Power to enter on the path of modern civilisation drew it nearer to France, and strengthened the ties between the two countries. We were pleased also with the hope that for Poland, as well as for Russia, the new reign would be a reign of regeneration. If the hopes which the Cabinet of St. Petersburg allowed us to conceive have not been realised—if, above all, in the grave conjuncture which presents itself, it has placed itself in opposition with that public opinion as persevering as the misfortunes of Poland, it has created for itself and for us also a painful situation, upon which I thought myself bound to dwell with the Baron de Bismarck. You will please, therefore, Monsieur le Duc, to take these considerations for your guidance in your language to Prince Gortschakoff. You will not leave him in ignorance of the reflections with which we defend ourselves, nor the reserved attitude which they impose upon us, and I cannot but hope that he will appreciate the frankness of our explanations.

The diplomatic documents communicated to the Senate also include a circular of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, dated the 1st of March, addressed to the agents of France abroad, in reference to the Russo-Prussian convention, and stating the steps taken by France in the matter.

Paris, March 1, 1863.

When the present troubles broke out in Poland had merely the character of an act of resistance to a measure of internal administration adopted under abnormal conditions. The uneasy state in which the country has long been no doubt augmented the gravity of the crisis. It was, nevertheless, purely local before the signature of the convention between France and Russia. But, when it became the object of an international act, the question changed its nature, and the Cabinets were called upon to appreciate these arrangements. We were speedily made aware of the views of the British Cabinet by the speeches of the Queen's Ministers in Parliament, and a communication from the Court of Austria regarding her attitude in Galicia, led us to think that the sentiments of that Power were not widely different from our own. It appeared to us, however, that an understanding was desirable before taking any official step in regard to the Prussian Government. We were persuaded that observations which the three Cabinets might agree in thinking it right and useful to make separately at Berlin would be more right and more useful still if made simultaneously in similar terms; that an opinion presented in that form would be of more authority; and that, moreover, the very necessity of giving a common expression to the views of three parties would be a guarantee for moderation and impartiality. The Government of Her Britannic Majesty has not adhered to the step which we were disposed to take. Austria, on her part, while adopting our view, has not thought herself justified in officially blaming a Convention with which she had from the first declined solidarity. In this state of things the Government of the Emperor has no further result to give to the proposition which supposes an agreement. However, we have reason to hope that the effect produced by the signing of the Convention of St. Petersburg will not be entirely lost, and that the two contracting Courts will duly appreciate the unanimity of the observations which these arrangements have occasioned. For our part, we shall continue to follow these events with the degree of interest which they are calculated to inspire. Our duties in this respect coalesce with those of the other great Powers placed in the same position as ourselves. The efforts which we have made to subordinate any proceedings of the Cabinets to previous concert testifies, moreover, to the sentiments which we feel in an affair which involves on our part neither private policy nor isolated action.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

The report of the committee upon the petitions in favour of Poland presented to the French Senate was read in that assembly on Saturday by M. Leroux. It is altogether opposed to a war for the reconstitution of Poland, which some of the petitions urge. The report concludes by stating that, in the present position of affairs, and considering the negotiations which have been entered upon, the committee, in consequence of the communications it has received, feels persuaded that the Government of the Emperor has done, and will continue to do, all that is "just, possible, and politic" in favour of Poland. It is, therefore, of opinion that it would be neither necessary nor justifiable to recommend the Ministry to take the petitions into consideration; and for this reason it proposes to the Senate, by a large majority, to leave the matter to the wisdom of the Emperor and to pass to the order of the day.

The debate on Poland began on Tuesday in the French Senate. M. Bonjean gave an account of the sufferings of Poland and of the injustices of which she had been the victim, and foresaw the probability of a remodelling of the map of Europe for restoring to Poland her nationality. M. Bonjean entreated the Emperor's Government "to acquire immortal glory by caring to accomplish a great act of justice and reparation." He stated, in conclusion, that he should vote for sending back the petition to the Government. M. de Laguerre criticised the speech of M. Bonjean, and believed there was still time for Russia to carry out the treaties on the fulfilment of which, he said, the peace of the world depended. M. de Pomiatowski then spoke in favour of Poland, and said he could not understand how the Senate could reject the petitions in favour of Poland by disdainfully passing to the order of the day. The debate is to be continued.

IRELAND.

CONVICTION FOR THE MURDER OF MR. FITZGERALD.—At the Limerick Assizes last week, Denis Dillane was found guilty of hiring assassins to murder Mr. Fitzgerald last year, and sentenced to death by Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, who presided at the trial. Previous to his sentence the prisoner made a long rambling statement, in which, however, he did not deny his crime. A man named Cooke, convicted of harbouring one of the assassins, was sentenced to imprisonment for one year and nine months, the Judge giving as a reason for the leniency of his sentence that no proclamation had been made on the subject at the time of the offence. The two assassins were convicted and executed last year.

CURIOUS CASE.—A letter from Dublin says:—"The widow of Mr. Thomas Bradley, who lately died possessed of enormous wealth, followed her husband, after a few weeks' illness, yesterday. Her history was curious. She had a lover, whom she stipulated to marry, though his wife was then living, which they should be both freed from legal impediments by the death of their respective partners, and in default thereof Mrs. Bradley was to forfeit some thousands of her husband's money, for which she gave a bond. The gentleman, after Mr. Bradley's death, commenced legal proceedings to enforce this bond, the wealthy widow having consented to give her hand and fortune to the son of a peer—the Hon. Mr. B.—. Both the rival suitors are deprived of the magnificent prize by the death of the lady, whose relations will now be likely to have the vast savings of Mr. Bradley.

A MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.—From some private information received by the police in Cork, they proceeded to the house of a farmer named Thomas Barry, residing at Cloughly, about five miles from this town, and in his yard dug up the skull and bones of a human being, supposed to be that of Margaret Danahy, a girl aged about fourteen years, and who had been buried there in 1847 by her father, Andrew Danahy (since dead), who had killed her. The skeleton has been removed into Mill-street pending an inquest, and the mother of the girl and the brother are in custody.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—An action for breach of promise of marriage, which from the position of the parties has excited much interest in Ireland, was concluded on Saturday at the Galway Assizes. The plaintiff, Miss Lucy Evans, is the daughter of a gentleman residing near Teem, and defendant, the Rev. Harrie Fleming, is Rector of Ballymacward, in the county of Galway. The case on behalf of the plaintiff was stated by Mr. Blake, Q.C., who read several letters which had passed between the parties, on which he relied as showing that the defendant had promised to marry the plaintiff. The father, sister, and uncle of the lady were examined, and proved that the defendant had admitted having made the promise, but that he alleged that circumstances prevented him from fulfilling his engagement, and also that the plaintiff had released him from it. After an able speech by Mr. Robinson, Q.C., on behalf of the defendant, his Lordship charged the jury, who found for the plaintiff, with £1000 damages, and 6d. costs.

THE "CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY."—The *Nation* explains why the Catholic University, Dublin, was all in darkness on the night of the illumination. The authorities had ordered the illumination, but the whole body of the students revolted, and determined most conscientiously that there should be no illumination. It was, we are told, a most exciting contest, and never before, except on one occasion, was the so much unanimity displayed among the students—encouraged, it is said, by two or three of the professors, whose disloyal teaching drove away Dr. Newman and Mr. Arnold in disgust, and with them all the sons of gentlemen who had entered the University. "There was," says the *Nation*, "but one sentiment expressed or manifested—that the illumination of the University, so far from symbolising their political feelings, was in a true violence of them." They posted a notice in the University hall convening a meeting of the students to express their feelings on the subject; this notice was torn down by the University authorities. The arrangements were made for the lighting on Friday. On Saturday the gaspans were out by the students, who also injured the illuminating materials. The injuries were repaired, but they were once more destroyed by the students, whose victory over "the authorities" was demonstrated by the darkness on the wedding night.

CRUEL MURDER BY A STEPMOTHER.—On Sunday morning last a child, aged a little over five years, living with his father, a collier, named Evan Ellis Rees, on Monmore Green, in Wolverhampton, ran into a neighbouring public-house, and said that his mother had thrown to the ground a younger brother aged between three and four years, and had killed him. Information was conveyed to the police, and the child was found in the house laid out in bed a corpse. There was an incised wound on the forehead near the left temple, and one on the lip, and there were bruises upon other parts of the body. It appears that the deceased is the youngest of three children, whose mother is dead; that they are now in the care of a stepmother, who, when she was married to their father was a widow, and had herself three children; and that since her second marriage she has had three other children. About a year ago she was convicted of an aggravated assault upon the child, and sentenced to two months' imprisonment. Since that date frequent complaints have been lodged with the police alleging a continuance of the cruelty for which the stepmother had been convicted. Upon an investigation by the police, the child was found to be suffering from extreme hunger and thirst, so much so that it ate ravenously when supplied with food; and neighbours alleged that, whilst suffering from thirst, the child had drunk dirty water that had collected in front of the house. Whilst the child was so occupied, the stepmother is alleged to have lifted it from the ground, and, throwing it back again, broke its arm, for which injuries the child had to be treated by the surgeons of the South Staffordshire Hospital. These statements having been communicated to the Coroner, he has ordered a jury to be summoned, and an inquest to be held. The stepmother alleges that the child died in bed during Saturday night.

SCOTLAND.

LORD PALMERSTON'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND.—Lord Palmerston, after visiting Glasgow and Greenock on the 20th and 21st of March, is to be entertained at a public dinner by the citizens of Edinburgh on the 1st of April. The Lord Provost (whose guest the noble Lord is to be) is to preside, and the list of stewards embraces the names of gentlemen of Conservative as well as Liberal politics. It is expected that the freedom of the city of Edinburgh will be presented to the noble Premier on the occasion of his visit. His Lordship was an alumnus of Edinburgh University about the beginning of the century.

CARRYING THE MAILS IN THE HEBRIDES.—An accident of a very alarming nature took place at Iona last Saturday morning about one o'clock. Whilst the letter-carrier was crossing the Sound of Iona to Mull in his boat it was upset by a heavy breaker. It was a calm morning, but the swell was tremendous, and the boat was only about half way across when the accident occurred. The postmaster, who was watching it all the time in case of an accident, gave the alarm, and got a boat launched and manned. The boatmen pulled over the large breakers in good style until they reached the boat, which they found bottom upwards, with the letter-carrier and his comrade, its occupants, holding on by the keel. About twenty minutes elapsed from the time the boat upset until the other boat reached them and brought them ashore in a very exhausted state; but, after being promptly attended to, they soon recovered. The postmaster saved the life of the letter-carrier under similar circumstances on the same banks some twenty years ago, before the post-office was established on the island; and this is the fourth time the letter-carrier has had a hairbreadth escape from drowning.

THE PROVINCES.

THE NORWICH GATES.—On Saturday a meeting of the committee formed for presenting the Norwich Gates as a souvenir of the late International Exhibition—to the Prince of Wales, was held at Norwich. The meeting was convened by the Earl of Leicester, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, and was well attended. It was stated that the ladies of Norfolk were joining in the subscription, the Countess of Leicester heading the list of the fair contributors. The time and mode of presenting the gates to the Prince were

discussed, but nothing was determined. It is understood, however, that the presentation will probably be made during the Easter holidays, when the Prince and Princess of Wales are expected to pass a few days at Sandringham.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.—On Friday evening, the 13th inst., Joseph Simpson, a groom, made an attempt to murder his sweetheart, Mary Tomlinson, a domestic servant, at Newton Mount, near Barton-upon-Trent, and afterwards committed suicide. They had been for some months engaged, and on the occasion of the rejoicing at the Prince of Wales's marriage went together to Burton. At the conclusion of the entertainments Tomlinson left the company of Simpson and joined another young man. This irritated her old sweetheart, who purchased a double-barrelled rifle pistol, with a quantity of powder and shot, and on Friday morning proceeded to her master's house, where he asked a boy to tell her that he wished to see her. She went, and gave him back a ring he had bought for their wedding. At half-past four o'clock in the evening the report of firearms was heard, and on inquiry being made into the cause it was found that Tomlinson had been shot. She was found lying on the coal-heap in a state of insensibility. She was immediately attended by medical men, who, however, entertain small hopes of her recovery, as she is seriously wounded under the ear. Simpson was found lying in a ditch, with blood streaming from a wound he had inflicted by the pistol shot. He was not dead, but life was extinct before medical aid could be procured. By his side, close to his right hand, was found a double-barrelled pistol, which had the appearance of having been recently discharged, each nipple bearing an exploded cap.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO 203.

LORD MAYOR IN TROUBLE.

The Lord Mayor has come to grief in the House of Commons already. He went down to Southampton. He was the idol of the people there. He beat Captain Mangles with all the influence of the Royal Mail Company at his back. He was received with open arms when he arrived at the House by the Conservative chiefs and the party whigs, and for a time, who so great as he, Chief Magistrate of the greatest city in the world, and member of Parliament? And when he made his first speech he got on passing well. It was not a splendid success, it was not an ignominious failure. But then came this unfortunate procession through the City, and then his fortunes turned; the spiteful Fates decided against him; and, as we have said, he has come to grief, and the laurels which but lately flourished so bravely, and looked so fresh and green, that he might well think that they were immortal, have, in the hot and uncongenial atmosphere of the House of Commons, like many other laurels which we have reaped, faded and died. It was old General Sir De Lacy Evans who brought the subject of the confusion and obstructions which so hindered and perilled the Royal cortege before the House. The old Peninsular warrior loves order and discipline, does not believe in impossibilities, and, naturally enough, was shocked at the confusion and obstructions in the neighbourhood of the Mansion House. It was not, however, his speech that damaged the Lord Mayor, for that was courteous and moderate, and rather deprecatory of the police system than critical of the City powers. It was the Lord Mayor himself and Lord Alfred Paget, the Queen's Equerry, and Sir George Grey, the Home Secretary, and the somewhat spiteful remarks of Mr. Ayrton, between whom and the City there is an ancient undying feud, that did the mischief. The Lord Mayor made two mistakes. He spoke unpreparedly, and he spoke too soon. He should have consulted his advisers—that able, experienced, sagacious City Remembrancer, for example—allowed them to get up his case, and adhered closely to the brief which they would have put into his hands. By such a course he would have been spared the ridicule and laughter which confronted and confused him, if he had not established his case. And he should have patiently kept his seat till his foes had expended their fire. He began very well—as young speakers in the House generally do—and for a time all went well; but he soon got confused; the laughter and ironical cheers which assailed him increased his confusion. He then fell away from the cautious style in which he began, and got into what we may call a loose, slipshod oratory, which, though passable at civic feasts, is not suitable to the taste of the House of Commons. And then of course the laughter and ironical cheers were redoubled; and, in short, my Lord Mayor was made painfully to feel, as we said, that he was making a mess of it, than which nothing can be more distressing to a Parliamentary tyro. But let not the Lord Mayor be deterred. He has abilities, no doubt, or he would not be where he is. In the House of Commons there is room for the play of all sorts of talent. If he cannot shine as a speaker he may be useful on committees, he is no singular. There are scores of men who seldom speak, whose services, nevertheless, the House would be sorry to lose. So, *nil desperandum*, my Lord Mayor. There are laurels for your plucking in other fields than the oratorical.

HER MAJESTY'S CHIEF EQUERRY.

But who have we here, lifting his tall, handsome form above the members? Why, it is her Majesty's Chief Equerry and Clerk Marshal, Lord Alfred Paget. The members stared when they saw the noble Lord arise, for his Lordship rarely speaks. We do not remember that we ever saw him on his legs before. Indeed, speaking is not the noble Lord's vocation. His duty, when not in attendance upon her Majesty, is to make a House, keep a House, cheer the Minister, and vote for the Government; and on any political subject we should as soon expect to hear one of the heralds of arms which adorn the Peasants' benches below the gangway speak as the noble Lord. The members, then, well might stare and hush themselves to silence when Lord Alfred Paget rose to speak. There was, however, another reason for this silence besides the rarity of the noble Lord's appearance as a speaker. Lord Alfred is well known in the House for his jovial spirits and his humour and love of fun, and the House expected that he would give it a touch of his quality. In short, that it was about to have some fun, which is a thing that it dearly loves; for, as a Frenchman in the gallery once said when he saw the House convulsed with laughter and knew not the cause, "It is a laffable House." And the House was not disappointed, for, from beginning to end, Lord Alfred's speech was excessively amusing. It was a series of pictures. First we had the emerging of the procession from London Bridge into a dense mass of human beings, and the noble Lord with the utmost good temper persuading the people to make way for him and the procession, "as, in fact, they were bound for Windsor." Then the few policemen, so anxious "to see our beautiful Princess" as to forget their duty. The "frenzied asquash" at the Mansion House, when the people got on to the Royal carriage, between the wheelers and the leaders; the difficult navigation of the streets east of Temple Bar, with its heebys, as compared with the clear water west; not forgetting the friendly interview between "Alfred Paget and Mr. Rose," preluded by an "excellent luncheon." All this was very humorous, and delighted the House immensely. Perhaps, however, the humour was not so much in the matter as in the manner, which was imitable. It destiny had pointed Lord Alfred's steps to the stage he might have successfully competed with Buckstone and Compton. But it was no fun to the Lord Mayor, all this; for, humorous and funny as Lord Alfred Paget's speech was, it was very damaging to the civic magistrates, as it not only described the confusions and obstructions which endangered, but it revealed the fact that the authorities of the City had been quietly warned of the danger, and had been offered assistance both by the Horse Guards and the metropolitan police, and had unaccountably refused the proffered help.

SIR GEORGE GREY.

Nor did Mr. Ayrton's cold and somewhat spiteful speech mend the matter; but it was left to Sir George Grey to consummate the defeat of the City magistrates, and turn the confusion into a rout. Sir De Lacy Evans opened the skirmish in a faint and perfunctory manner, as though he did not court a serious engagement. Lord Alfred Paget played upon the enemy with the light artillery of his wit and humour, and did much damage; Ayrton shot into their ranks his poisoned arrows; but Sir George Grey came down upon them like a squadron of heavy horse, and utterly routed them. "You say that no efficient assistance was offered by the Horse Guards." Why, I have learned from the Duke of Cambridge that heretofore his Quartermaster-General to offer every assistance at his command; and that at first all assistance was absolutely refused; but that, on further consideration, you did consent to receive a few mounted artificers. And with respect to Sir Richard Mayne, he has informed me that he

attended your Reception Committee in the City, on the 20th of February, and offered to take charge of Fleet-street, so as to liberate your men to go elsewhere." Such was the 10th of Sir George's remarks, and after them there was nothing effective to be said. Alderman Sidney tried to cover the retreat of his brother magistrate, but it was all in vain. He could scarcely get a hearing, and had painfully to learn that the House of Commons is not Guildhall, and that practised officials like Sir George Grey—cautious, witty speakers like Mr. Ayrton, and high-toned gentlemen like Sir De Lacy Evans and her Majesty's Esquerry and Clerk Marshal, are much more difficult to handle than recalcitrant Deputies and Common Councilmen. Men say that Sir George Grey means to strike whilst the iron is hot, and at once bring in a bill to amalgamate the Metropolitan and City Police. But complete as his victory was last week he would not find it so easy to effect the change. Thrice, if we remember rightly, he essayed to reform the Corporation, but was always defeated. To gain a victory over the civic magnates in such a skirmish as that which we have noticed was not difficult; but, let the old Corporation have time to concentrate its forces, and intrench itself behind its old, rusty charter, and its mahogany, and set to work all its officials, and it is still questionable whether Sir George Grey would succeed in making the change—all desirable and consistent with common sense though it may be.

LORD HOTHAM, LORD ELCHO, AND SIR RICHARD MAYNE.
That Friday night on which the battle above described occurred was rather an eventful time. After the City affair was over, there was another skirmish; and here, too, we had a notable veteran in the field—to wit, Major-General Lord Hotham. It is long since his Lordship marched at the head of his regiment of Guards; but he, too, was in the Peninsula, and was also at Waterloo. Indeed, Hotham is an historic name. There was an Admiral Hotham of no small celebrity; he was great uncle of the noble Lord; and, if we mistake not, there was a General Hotham of the same family, who held Hull for the King in the time of the civil wars. It is, however, with Lord Hotham, member for the East Riding, that we now have to do. His Lordship is one of the recognised characters of the House of Commons. He is a fine, tall, soldierly man, somewhat advanced in years, but still unbent; and as he marches into the House the stranger in the Lobby sees at once that he is somebody of note. But it is his curious costume rather than his person that catches the eye of the stranger. Lately he has taken to wearing occasionally a brown, loose coat. But he commonly appears in blue, tail-coat ornamented with brass buttons, the waist of which coat is high up his back, and the tail thereof much more sharp and pointed than is the fashion of the present day. In short, the pattern of the coat was settled some half century ago, and has never been changed. Indeed, the dress of the noble Lord altogether is not of this time, but is just what used to be worn by country gentlemen fifty years back. His Lordship is a very diligent attendant in the House—rarely absent from prayers—and is generally to be seen in his place up to midnight. He, however, speaks but seldom. The cause of his rising on this occasion was a querulous attack made upon Sir Richard Mayne by Lord Elcho, of volunteer celebrity. The *Times* had found fault with the military arrangements in Hyde Park, which forced the people so far back that they could not see the procession. Whereupon, Sir Richard Mayne informed the *Times* that it was not his fault. He had arranged to allow the people to be so near that they could get a good view of the Princess, but his arrangements were all disturbed by the volunteers taking position 120 yards back; and hence the squabble. Lord Elcho was indignant that a civilian should presume to censure the military authorities, and he brought the matter before the House, and made a very tart and captious speech thereon; and, as the Secretary-at-War rather sided with complainant, it seemed at first as if Lord Elcho would gain his object, and that poor Sir Richard Mayne would have to consider himself snubbed. Fortune, however, had favoured Sir Richard that day; for as he was walking up Whitehall, thinking, perhaps, with no little annoyance of the notice of Lord Elcho which he had seen in the *Times*, he accidentally ran against (as the phrase is) Lord Hotham. This was most opportune: Lord Hotham was his friend. At once he began to unfold his tale to the noble Lord. "Will you explain this matter, my Lord?" "Of course I will," was the short soldierly reply of the veteran. And down he went to the House, arranging the matter in his mind as he went, and marshalling his forces, as it were. And so it happened that when Lord Elcho had delivered his charge, and had been supported by Sir George Lewis, up rose Lord Hotham's tall, stately form, in defence of his friend. And uncommonly well he did his work. As a reply to Lord Elcho the speech of the gallant General was complete—crashing in fact, as one said in our hearing, there was as much difference between the loose array of Lord Elcho's speech and the live, effective reply of Lord Hotham, as there is between the loose marching of a regiment of volunteers and the massive unity that there is in the tramp of a body of Guards. We suspect that Lord Hotham's remarks were inspired by a little jealousy for the service. "Hotham did that well," said an old soldier to another old soldier. "Yes, he did," was the reply, "and it is time that these volunteers should have their combs cut a trifle, or we old regulars shall be swagged out of the field." But however this may be, we have seldom listened to a more effective reply. And great must have been the joy of Sir Richard Mayne the next morning when at the breakfast table he read the verbatim report of his friend's speech in the *Times*. There is one thing, however, must be said before we part with the subject: Sir Richard Mayne and Lord Hotham were right, and Lord Elcho, albeit sanctioned by the War Office, was wrong; and, as we have heard before,

Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just.

LORD ROBERT ONCE AGAIN.

"What, again, my Lord!—twice in a week! Why, you must be inspired!" Such were our reflections when, on the same eventful night we saw Lord Robert Cecil upon his legs. But if the noble Lord's appearance so soon again was remarkable, his speech was more so. It was on the Army Estimates, when the House was in Committee, that Lord Robert Cecil spoke. He had been sedulously poring over a French Bluebook making comparison between the cost of the management of the Imperial army, and comparing it with our own, and this speech was the result. And never did Lord Robert show to such advantage. His face was marshalled with as much order as a regiment of guards with the gallant old Lord Hotham at their head; and then, to keep to our military figure, his charges were delivered against the War Office with as much precision and damaging effect as these guards were wont to deliver their charges against a foe. In our last we said that Lord Robert often spoke to an inattentive audience; but it was not so on this occasion. The House was too attentive even to cheer. Its feared to applaud lest it should lose some of the noble Lord's facts or break the continuity of his argument. It is true that much of this close attention was attributable to the fact that the noble Lord had penetrated and worked a new quarry. There has always been a vague suspicion that they do these things better in France. This suspicion, however, arose only from the well-known fact that, on the whole, the French do not expend so much about their army as we do. Nobody, that we remember before, had worked this mine, analysed these figures, and brought them in detail into comparison with our own. Still others might have done all this, and yet have been unable to use new materials; for as there are men who can make bricks, but cannot build a house; so there are many members of Parliament who can collect materials and cannot use them with effect. Lord Robert, however, showed in this speech that he possesses all the diligence and skill of a practised investigator, and, what is more uncommon, the art of clearing out his facts with logical precision and effect. Forward, then, my Lord! "Scorn'd rights and free labours days," might we somewhat to our sympathy; but your head up above the admiral bag which has enveloped you; in short, be a man of the present and not of the past age; and then, in spite of fate and oracle, you must take position—and a high one—in the next Conservative Government.

Imperial Parliament.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

GREAT-EASTERN RAILWAY EXTENSION BILL.

The bill for the proposed extension of the Great Eastern Railway to Finsbury-circus was under discussion. Lord SHAFTESBURY moved the rejection of the bill. After a lengthy discussion, however, he withdrew his motion, and the debate was adjourned for a fortnight.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WOODEN AND IRON SHIPS.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. LINDSAY moved the following resolution:—"That it is not expedient to commence at the present time building wooden ships which are to be armed with iron armour-plates." The hon. gentleman, in supporting this motion, contended that the experience of the shipbuilders and shipowners of the world served to show the superior cheapness and efficiency of iron ships as compared with ships built of timber.

Lord C. PAGET said he felt convinced it was absolutely necessary that this country should continue to build iron-plated ships. We had at present twenty-one such vessels built or being constructed; but that was a number less than that which they had built or were building in France. Wood offered special advantages in carrying out a work of that description. Iron ships when laid up in harbour were very apt to foul, and to have their speed in consequence greatly diminished. Men-of-war, it should at the same time be remembered, had to be kept stationary at a number of important points for much longer periods than merchant vessels, and were, therefore, when they were constructed of iron, peculiarly liable to that deterioration. He had further to observe that in the present unsettled state of the science of iron shipbuilding it would be impossible for the Admiralty to furnish contractors with specifications to which, as the works progressed, they could adhere. He warned the House that if they were to resolve on constructing iron the whole of our armour-plated ships, they must incur an additional expenditure, for which they would have to provide by supplemental navy estimates.

A long discussion ensued, and on a division Mr. Lindsay's resolution was rejected, the numbers being—For the resolution, 81; against it, 164.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Salmon Exportation Bill was read a third time and passed, and the Naval Coast Volunteers Bill passed through Committee. Some other bills were forwarded a stage.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Registration of Births and Deaths (Ireland) Bill and the Malt Duties Bill were read a second time, and the Drainage of Land (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CITY AND METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Sir DE LACY EVANS brought under the consideration of the House the expediency of amalgamating the metropolitan and city of London police establishments. The hon. and gallant member said it was well known that the Royal procession on Saturday last had been seriously and dangerously interrupted in the City, and that on the night of the illuminations eight persons at least had been crushed to death in the same part of the metropolis; while along all the other portions of the line the procession had passed on freely, and not a single life had been lost during the illumination.

Mr. Alderman ROSE said, that the failure of the police arrangements on Saturday had arisen out of a series of extraordinary conjunctures. In the first place, the City Commissioner of Police had died only a week before the great popular demonstration of Saturday. Then, again, the whole pressure of that demonstration had been thrown on the City police. And, further, an additional source of confusion had been created by the passage of a vanload of the metropolitan police along the great City thoroughfares in the course of the morning. It had been stated that an offer of assistance for that occasion had been made by the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police to the City authorities; but there was no truth in that rumour; and he had to add that the only aid they had received from the military authorities consisted in the presence of a number of men of the mounted artillery, who, in consequence of the large horse trappings worn by their horses, were necessarily ill-fitted for such a service. The volunteers, too, had contributed by their movements to complicate the difficulty. The City authorities had given orders that the volunteers should form more ornamental portions of the spectacle, and that they should take no part in keeping the line of the procession; and the fact was that they had only stood in the way throughout the day. He submitted to the House that circumstances of this exceptional character would not justify them in deciding that the citizens of London should be deprived of the control they had hitherto exercised over their own police. The City authorities, however, felt that there were circumstances in the scene of Saturday which called for careful inquiry, which was being made.

Sir G. GREY said there could be no doubt that the Royal procession on Saturday, which had passed readily through all the other portions of the metropolis, had met with a serious obstruction in the City. He had been informed by gentlemen who had been in attendance on the Royal party that along that part of the line there appeared to have been a total want of any directing authority. His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief had informed him that he had offered to the City authorities any military assistance they might have thought necessary for the purpose of keeping the line; but that offer had, in the first instance, been refused, and it was with some difficulty that the services of some mounted artillerymen had afterwards been accepted. Sir R. Mayne, too, had positively assured him that on the 28th of February he had attended the reception committee of the City, and had offered to take charge of the line along Fleet-street, but that offer also had been declined. He believed that the City police were sufficient for its ordinary duties, but that it was not sufficiently numerous to meet such a pressure as that which it had to encounter on Saturday last. He thought it would be wrong for him to say as once that there should be an amalgamation of the City and the metropolitan police establishments. But he felt persuaded that there should be such an alteration of the existing law upon that subject as would enable the City authorities to supply a sufficient force for extraordinary occasions.

After some further discussion the subject dropped, and the House shortly after went into Committee of Supply, and resumed the consideration of the Army Estimates.

MONDAY, MARCH 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Lord Chancellor introduced a bill to amend the Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Act, and the bill was read a first time.

Earl Granville, in moving the second reading of the Union Relief Aid Act (1862) Continuance Bill, observed that, although there was at present a marked decrease in the amount of relief afforded in the cotton manufacturing districts, there still existed a sufficient amount of distress in those districts to render necessary a continuance of the Act of last year. The bill was then read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ENGLISH POLICE IN WARSAW.

Sir G. GREY, in reply to questions from Mr. Hennessy and Mr. D. Griffith, offered some further explanations with reference to the mission of two metropolitan police officers to Warsaw in the course of the last autumn. The right hon. Baronet added that he had acted in that matter on his own judgment, and without any communication with the Prime Minister or the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

AFFAIRS OF GREECE.

Mr. B. COCHRANE, in moving an address to the Crown for further correspondence relating to the affairs of Greece, referred to the deep interest which we had in the good government of that country, and then stated that the Greeks, by the almost unanimous vote of their throne to Prince Alfred had evinced their readiness to look up to England for guidance and protection. But he regretted to find himself compelled to add that in his opinion the conduct of her Majesty's Government towards Greece throughout the recent transactions had been neither just nor generous, and that their dubious and insincere policy had been productive of great injury to the Greek people.

Mr. LAYARD defended the policy of the Government in reference to that question. They were precluded by the engagements into which this country had entered from allowing an English Prince to accept the throne of Greece; and, on the other hand, it was impossible for them to prevent the Greek people from putting forward any candidate they might think proper. He believed that the moderate course which the British Government pursued in Eastern Europe was the best calculated to promote the real interests of the Greeks themselves, and at the same time to maintain the peace of the world.

Lord J. MANNERS said that after a very careful examination of the papers which had been laid before Parliament he was compelled to come to the conclusion that the policy pursued by her Majesty's Government upon that question was not calculated to maintain the dignity of this country or to promote the peace of Eastern Europe.

Lord PALMERSTON said he had been anxious to know what could be the ground upon which Mr. Cochrane could have found an attack upon the Government. There had been personal attacks upon Earl Russell, who could afford to be perfectly indifferent to them. One or two things appeared to have grievously weighed upon the mind of those who took the same view as Mr. Cochrane, first, that the Greeks had exhibited such animosity in the desire to elect an English Prince, and that they were not informed at the earliest moment. Then it was said that, when they were so told, and they went on to elect the Prince, our Minister was instructed not to interfere. But were Mr. Scarlett and Mr. Elliott to have gone about among the

electors and to have told them not to elect the Prince? Had this been done the interference would have been blamed as indecent. Then it was said the Greek had been neglected by the British Government; but the Government had lost no time in endeavouring to secure an acceptable candidate for the crown of Greece; it was for the Greeks themselves to choose; the British Government could only suggest a choice. He was, therefore, at a loss to know in what respect their conduct, which had been frank and straightforward from the beginning, was open to blame. As to Turkey and the European provinces of Turkey—topics which had been imported into the debate—he remarked that duration was spending in Turkey, where the government was improving, and although many privileges and equalities remained to be conceded to the Christians, they were much better off than they had been. If Mr. Cochrane withdrew his motion, when further papers on the subject were received he would have no objection to lay them on the table. After a few remarks from Mr. S. Fitzgerald, the motion was withdrawn, and the House went into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Union Relief Aid Act (1862) Continuance Bill passed through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CLOSING OF PUBLIC-HOUSES ON SUNDAY.

Mr. SOMES moved for leave to bring in a bill to entirely close public-houses on Sunday.

Mr. FACKRE said that, though opposed to tipping, he thought wholly to close public-houses on Sunday would be so monstrous an injustice to the lower classes that he should resist the introduction of the bill.

Sir G. GREY, without giving his sanction to the bill, did not oppose its introduction.

After a few remarks by Mr. Baines, Mr. Roebuck, and Mr. Horsfall, the House divided, when the motion was carried by 141 to 52.

THE GAME LAWS.

Mr. W. FORSTER moved for a select Committee to inquire into the operation of laws relating to game, to report whether in their opinion any, and if any what, alterations are required therein. He stated the reasons why he thought an inquiry desirable—the hurried manner in which the Act of last Session was passed, the different interpretations put upon it, and the counter-decisions it had undergone. The interests, moral and social, of the labouring classes, the increase of poaching, and, above all, the perplexed state of the law, furnished additional reasons for an inquiry, and it might be extended to collateral questions, which he indicated.

The motion was seconded by Lord ENFIELD, who, though he had voted for the second reading of the bill of last year, voted against the third reading, being convinced that the subject ought to undergo a previous inquiry.

Mr. THOMPSON moved, as an amendment, a resolution that it is desirable that the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the game laws should be postponed until further experience shall have been obtained of the working of the Prevention of Poaching Act.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. Paull.

Sir G. GREY said he had stated last Session that if a Committee of Inquiry into this subject was moved for he should be prepared to assent to the motion, and, in redemption of that pledge, he should vote for the appointment of a Committee. He thought that a large proportion of the crime of the country which was connected with the game laws demanded the serious consideration of the House, and it had been admitted by Mr. Thompson that these laws were in an anomalous state. He must say, in his opinion, there were abundant grounds for granting an inquiry.

Mr. Newdegate and Lord A. Chancellil spoke shortly to a very impatient House, and, upon a division, the amendment was carried by 176 to 167.

CHANGES OF SURNAME.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved an address for returns of the names of all persons who have applied for licenses to change their names since 1850; or the instances in which such licenses have been granted and refused, with the reasons for refusal; or the principles which have been observed in granting and refusing such licenses; or the amount of fees demanded for such licenses, and the manner in which the moneys have been applied. In his argument in support of the motion he contended that no license whatever was required by law for a change of name, and that no official person was entitled to interfere and prevent the operation of the law in this particular.

After some discussion on the motion, with certain modifications, was agreed to.

EMBANKMENT OF THE THAMES.

Mr. COWPER moved for leave to bring in a bill for the embankment of part of the River Thames on the south side thereof, in the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, and for the purposes, explaining the great improvements provided for by the bill, which would empower the Board of Works to defray the cost out of the Thames Embankment and Metropolis Fund.

Mr. W. Williams and Mr. Cubitt made a few observations, and the motion was agreed to.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF CHILD-STEALING.

A NOVEL and romantic case of child-stealing, which has created the greatest interest throughout Wiltshire, engaged the attention of the Salisbury magistrates on Saturday. A woman named Annie Shipsey was charged with stealing an infant from the wife of John Yarlott, a workman employed on the London and South-Western Railway, and her husband, John Shipsey, stood by as a godfather at the birth of the child. A summons had likewise been issued against Mr. Samuel Pyle, a surgeon of more than twenty years' standing at Amesbury, to show cause why he should not be similarly charged as an accessory.

The facts, as they were deposed to in evidence, were these:—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., Mrs. Yarlott, the prosecutrix, who had been confined only about five weeks, was on her way to see her mother, who is an inmate of one of the Salisbury almshouses, having her baby in her arms, when she was accosted by the female prisoner, who said that she had been taken suddenly ill, and would be glad if Mrs. Yarlott would accompany her into a public-house hard by for the purpose of having some peppermint. Mrs. Yarlott agreed, and they had not been more than a few minutes in the house when she was asked by the female prisoner to go to a draper's shop in the town for a parcel which had been left there for a Mrs. Brown, and which she herself was too ill to be able to fetch. Mrs. Yarlott went, leaving her baby in the hands of the prisoner; but, when she returned to say that there was no parcel for any Mrs. Brown, the prisoner and the infant had disappeared. Every effort was made by the police to trace the woman, who was a perfect stranger to the prosecutrix, that night, but without the slightest success. On the following Thursday it was ascertained that the female prisoner had accepted a cartier, to whom she was known, on Tuesday evening, about a mile from Salisbury, saying, "I wish you were going the other way; you see I have got my bargain." "When did that happen?" he inquired, and she replied, "Since I left home this morning." It was further ascertained that a farmer returning from Salisbury market had given her a lift as far as Amesbury, and that she told him she had three children, including the infant which she then had in her arms. This being known to be untrue, Superintendent Cudon, of the Salisbury police, went to her house on a farm at Milton, where her husband was shepherd, and there found an infant being nursed by her sister. The female prisoner, who was in bed up stairs, stated that she was confined immediately after her return from Salisbury on Tuesday evening, and that two women, neighbours, were present. These women, however, did not appear to have been called in until after the little stranger was in the house, and having his suspicions that the said little stranger was considerably more than two or three days old, Mr. Cudon called in Mr. Pyle, and paid him the usual fee to examine the woman. He went upstairs, and in a few minutes gave it as his opinion that she had been recently confined, that she had milk, and that the child might be about four or five days old. The statement of John Shipsey, the husband, who was then sent for, was to the effect that his wife was suddenly taken in labour on her way home from Salisbury, and that circumstances were known to him conclusive of the fact. To this statement he did not afterwards adhere, and consequently further suspicion was excited. On the following day Mrs. Shipsey was examined by Mr. Winzar, surgeon, of Salisbury, who gave it as his opinion that she had not been recently confined, even if she had ever been confined at all, and that the child was at least four or five weeks old. A warrant was accordingly obtained for the apprehension of Mrs. Shipsey and her husband, but on Saturday Mr. Pyle refused to allow the police to enter the house, on the ground that the woman was suffering from inflammation. Later in the day Mr. Martin Coates, another son of Salisbury, was taken over to examine her, and, while his opinion fully corroborated that of Mr. Winzar, he could discover no traces of inflammation, although the woman complained of pain on pressure. She was very agitated, and Mr. Coates accordingly suggested that she had better not be removed before Sunday. The house was placed in charge of a constable, and Shipsey himself was taken to Salisbury. He then made a written statement to the effect that his wife came home between six and seven on Tuesday evening, and, knocking at the door, said, "Oh, dear! oh, dear! I have got your bargain." He said, "What in the world have you got?" and she replied, "Oh, do take her out of it and let I go up stairs." The infant, he said, had only a calico bandage round it. He asked her if he should go for a surgeon, and she said, "No," he had better call in some of the neighbours, which he did. Mrs. Yarlott was taken to the house, and immediately identified the child, which was given up to her. She likewise identified the calico bandage, but none of the other clothes which the infant had on when it was lost could be found, and it is supposed that the prisoner destroyed them on her way home. On Sunday evening Mr. Pyle consented to her removal, and expressed his regret at not having originally made a more minute examination. On Monday Shipsey and his wife were taken before the magistrates and formally released until Saturday, the latter still declaring, and calling Heaven to witness, that the child was her own. On Saturday she said that if she stole it she could not recollect it, and begged the magistrates to have in reply upon her husband. Mr. L. S. on the part of Mr. Pyle, contended that he had a moral and a legal right to the child. The Bench, taking this view of the case, dismissed the summons. John Shipsey, too, was discharged, but his wife was committed for trial at the Salisbury Borough Sessions.

FRANCE AND POLAND.

DIPLOMATIC documents relating to Poland have been laid before the French Senate.

Among them is a despatch of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, dated the 26th of March, 1855, addressed to Count Walewski, at that time Ambassador of France in London. The despatch calls to mind that in 1831 the Emperor Nicholas released himself from the obligations towards Europe imposed upon him by the treaties of 1815 with regard to Poland. The great Powers fully understood the danger which might arise by the aggrandisement of Russia, and the advantages to be derived from returning to the treaties prohibiting Russia to possess the kingdom of Poland otherwise than as a distinct State. The despatch then says that "the time appears to have arrived for reminding Russia of the obligations she has contracted towards Europe in reference to Poland."

M. Drouyn de Lhuys concludes by requesting Count Walewski to ascertain the opinion of Lord Clarendon upon the subject.

Another despatch, addressed by Count Walewski to Count Persigny on the 15th of October, 1855, states that Lord Clarendon entertained similar views upon the expediency of taking advantage of passing events to bring about as far as possible some change in favour of Poland. His Lordship, however, did not think it necessary to impose such an arrangement as an absolute condition for the re-establishment of peace with Russia.

Another despatch communicated is from M. Drouyn de Lhuys to M. de Talleyrand, dated the 17th of February, 1863, the most important parts of which are as follow:—

"I recently felicitated myself again with the Comte de Goitz upon the calm which had not ceased to reign in the Grand Duchy of Posen. The intelligence which I have received since then from our consulate at Danzig, and that which you yourself have transmitted to me, did not point to any symptom of agitation in that province, and I can scarcely account for the reasons which have determined the Cabinet of Berlin to depart from that neutrality which circumstances enabled her to preserve.

"The interest of Prussia was, as it seems to us, to maintain that attitude of observation while no imperative necessity obliged her to adopt another. The greater the reserve that she had shown the more would she have succeeded in circumventing and neutralising the influence of the struggle going on on the other side of her frontier, and preventing it from having any effect on the population of Posen.

"What must be, on the contrary, the effects of the arrangement which the Cabinet of Berlin adopted, but to agitate men's minds and create real dangers where none existed, and where, for the present at least, there was no serious difficulty to overcome.

In our eyes, Monsieur le Baron, the gravest inconvenience of the resolution taken by Prussia was that of a taking in some manner the Polish question itself. Until now the movements which have taken place have not been encouraged by the nobilities of the country nor by the emigration; they have not the character of a resistance to the recruitment order by the Russian Government, the insurrection was entirely local, it continued to be concentrated in the provinces of the kingdom of Poland.

By interfering in a manner more or less direct in the conflict the Cabinet of Berlin accepted not only the responsibility of the measure of repression adopted by Russia, but it awakened the idea of a solidarity among the different populations of ancient Poland. It seemed to invite the separate members of that nation to oppose their union to that of their Governments; to attempt, in a word, a truly national insurrection; and while it gratuitously threw itself into grave embarrassments, it created a situation which from this day will be a cause of inquietude, and may become a source of complications for the Cabinets.

Another despatch is from M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the Duc de Montebello, dated the 18th of February, and after a few preliminary remarks proceeds thus:—

"The Government of His Majesty, Monsieur le Duc, whether previous to the events actually taking place, or since they have arisen, has always been guided by the loyal and sincere desire to save the Cabinet of Russia, as much as it depended upon us, from the embarrassments inherent in the affairs of Poland. Far from seeking to disturb men's minds we have neglected nothing that could calm them. Scrupulously faithful to the duties of a regular government, we are inspired above all with the sentiments of esteem and friendship which have prevailed for many years in the relations between the two Cabinets.

But the Polish question possesses, more than any other in France, the privilege of awakening sympathy equally lively among all parties; they are in that respect unanimous; the language of the most zealous defenders of monarchism and religious ideas differ only in degree from that of the most advanced organs of democracy.

What can we oppose to publications which place themselves on the ground of public law, and which do no more than lay claim to maintain the most incontestable principles? Not only are we disarmed in presence of such writings, but, drawing ourselves out power from public opinion, we are obliged to respect sentiments which have been for many years those of the country.

The representatives of Europe assembled at the Congress of Vienna submitted to that impression and accepted it in a certain measure, when, seeking to repair the evils of Poland, one of the principal objects of their solicitude, they placed at the head of a general act, destined to serve as a basis of a new political system, stipulations which settled the fate of that country.

I have said, as to the rest, to the Ambassador of Russia, that we would faithfully observe the conduct which we had traced out for ourselves, and we would loyally fulfil the duties which result from the friendly character of our relations with the Cabinet of St. Petersburg; that, in fine, that we should not cease to recommend moderation, and loudly condemn everything which resembled proceedings which had anarchic and revolutionary tendencies; but I did not conceal from the Baron de Bunsen that, in spite of us, events might happen which would become more or less embarrassing, that the pressure of public feeling would be more imposing in proportion as circumstances became more grave, and we could only wish that, in the men which the Russian Government might have recourse to, nothing might happen that would render our position more difficult with respect to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, to ourselves, and to Europe.

Since the accession of the Emperor Alexander great progress has been made in Russia. We have been the first to applaud it, and to render homage to a liberal policy. All that, moreover, intimated that Power to enter on the path of modern civilisation drew it nearer to France, and strengthened the ties between the two countries. We were pleased also with the hope that for Poland, as well as for Russia, the new reign would be a reign of regeneration. If the hopes which the Cabinet of St. Petersburg allowed us to conceive have not been realised—if, above all, in the grave conjuncture which presents itself, it has placed itself in opposition with that public opinion which perseveres in the misfortunes of Poland, it has created for itself and for us also a painful situation, upon which I thought myself bound to dwell with the Baron de Bunsen. You will please, therefore, Monsieur le Duc, to take these considerations for your guidance in your language to Prince Gortschakoff. You will not leave him in ignorance of the relations with which we defend ourselves, nor the reserved attitude which they impose upon us, and I cannot but hope that he will appreciate the frankness of our explanations.

The diplomatic documents communicated to the Senate also include a circular of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, dated the 1st of March, addressed to the agents of France abroad, in reference to the Baso-Prussian convention, and stating the steps taken by France in the matter.

Paris, March 1, 1863.

When the present troubles broke out in Poland they had merely the character of an act of resistance to a measure of internal administration adopted under abnormal conditions. The uneasy state in which the country had long been no doubt augmented the gravity of the crisis. It was, nevertheless, purely local before the signature of the convention between Austria and Russia. But, when it became the object of an international act, the question changed its nature, and the Cabinets were called upon to appreciate these arrangements. We were speedily made aware of the views of the British Cabinet by the speeches of the Queen's Ministers in Parliament, and a communication from the Court of Austria regarding her attitude in Galicia, led us to think that the sentiments of that Power were not widely different from our own. It appeared to us, however, that an understanding was desirable before taking any official step in regard to the Prussian Government. We were persuaded that observations which the three Cabinets might agree in thinking it right and useful to make separately at Berlin would be in no right and more useful still if made simultaneously in similar terms; that an opinion presented in that form would be of more authority; and that, moreover, the very necessity of giving a common expression to the ideas of three parties would be a guarantee for moderation and impartiality. The Government of her Britannic Majesty has not adhered to the step which we were disposed to take. Austria, on her part, while adopting our view, has not thought herself justified in officially blaming a Convention with which she had from the first declined all sympathy. In this state of things the Government of the Emperor has no further result to give to the proposition which supposes an agreement. However, we have reason to hope that the effect produced by the signing of the Convention of St. Petersburg will not be entirely lost, and that the two contracting Courts will duly appreciate the unanimity of the observations which these arrangements have occasioned. For our part, we shall continue to follow these events with the degree of interest which they are calculated to inspire. Our duties in this respect coincide with those of the other great Powers placed in the same position as ourselves. The efforts which we have made to subordinate any proceedings of the Cabinets to previous concert testifies, moreover, to the sentiments which we feel in an affair which involves on our part neither policy nor isolated action.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

The report of the committee upon the petitions in favour of Poland presented to the French Senate was read in that assembly on Saturday by M. Laroche. It is altogether opposed to a war for the restoration of Poland, which some of the petitions urged. The report concludes by stating that, in the present position of affairs, and considering the negotiations which have been entered upon, the committee, in consequence of the communications it has received, feels persuaded that the Government of the Emperor has done, and will continue to do, all that is "just, possible, and politic" in favour of Poland. It is, therefore, of opinion that it would be neither easy nor justifiable to recommend the Ministry to take the petitions into consideration; and for this reason it proposes to the Senate, by a large majority, to leave the matter to the wisdom of the Emperor and to pass to the order of the day.

The debate on Poland began on Tuesday in the French Senate. M. Bonjean gave an account of the sufferings of Poland and of the injustices of which she had been the victim, and foresaw the probability of a remodelling of the map of Europe for restoring to Poland her nationality. M. Bonjean entreated the Emperor's Government "to acquire immortal glory by doing to accomplish a great act of justice and reparation." He stated, in conclusion, that he should vote for sending back the petition to the Government. M. de Lagueronnie criticised the speech of M. Bonjean, and believed there was still time for Russia to carry out the treaties on the fulfilment of which, he said, the peace of the world depended. M. de Poniatowski then spoke in favour of Poland, and said he could not understand how the Senate could reject the petitions in favour of Poland by disdainfully passing to the order of the day. The debate is to be continued.

IRELAND.

CONVICTION FOR THE MURDER OF MR. FITZGERALD.—At the Limerick Assizes last week, Denis Dillane was found guilty of hiring assassins to murder Mr. Fitzgerald last year, and sentenced to death by Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, who presided at the trial. Previous to his sentence the prisoner made a long rambling statement, in which, however, he did not deny his crime. A man named Cooke, convicted of harbouring one of the assassins, was sentenced to imprisonment for one year and nine months, the Judge giving as a reason for the leniency of his sentence that no proclamation had been made on the subject at the time of the offence. The two assassins were convicted and executed last year.

CURIOUS CASE.—A letter from Dublin says:—"The widow of Mr. Thomas Bradley, who lately died possessed of enormous wealth, followed her husband, after a few weeks' illness, yesterday. Her history was curious. She had a lover, whom she stipulated to marry, though his wife was then living, which they should be both freed from legal impediments by the death of their respective partners, and in default thereof Mrs. Bradley was to forfeit some thousands of her husband's money, for which she gave a bond. The gentleman, after Mr. Bradley's death, commenced legal proceedings to enforce this bond, the wealthy widow having consented to give her hand and fortune to the son of a peer—the Hon. Mr. B.—. Both the rival suitors are deprived of the magnificent prize by the death of the lady, whose relations will now be likely to share the vast savings of Mr. Bradley."

A MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.—From some private information received by the police in Cork, they proceeded to the house of a farmer named Thomas Barry, residing at Cloghelly, about five miles from this town, and in his yard dug up the skull and bones of a human being, supposed to be that of Margaret Danahy, a girl aged about fourteen years, and who had been buried there in 1847 by her mother, Andrew Danahy (since dead), who had killed her. The skeleton has been removed into Mill-street pending an inquest, and the mother of the girl and the brother are in custody.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—An action for breach of promise of marriage, which from the position of the parties has excited much interest in Ireland, was concluded on Saturday at the Galway Assizes. The plaintiff, Miss L. O. Evans, is the daughter of a gentleman residing near Tuam, and defendant, the Rev. Harrie Fleming, is Rector of Ballymacward, in the county of Galway. The case on behalf of the plaintiff was stated by Mr. Blake, Q.C., who read several letters which had passed between the parties, on which he relied as showing that the defendant had promised to marry the plaintiff. The father, sister, and uncle of the lady were examined, and proved that the defendant had admitted having made the promise, but that he alleged that circumstances prevented him from fulfilling his engagement, and also that the plaintiff had released him from it. After an able speech by Mr. Robinson, Q.C., on behalf of the defendant, his Lordship charged the jury, who found for the plaintiff, with £1000 damages, and 6d. costs.

THE "CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY."—The *Nation* explains why the Catholic University, Dublin, was all in darkness on the night of the illumination. The authorities had ordered the illumination, but the whole body of the students revolted, and determined most contumaciously that there should be no illumination. It was, we are told, a most exciting contest, and never before, except on one occasion, was the entire unanimity displayed among the students—encouraged, it is said, by two or three of the professors, whose disloyal teaching drove away Dr. Newman and Mr. Arnold in disgust, and with them all the sons of gentlemen who had entered the University. "There was," says the *Nation*, "but one sentiment expressed or manifested—that the illumination of the University, so far from embodying their political feelings, was in utter violence of them." They posted a notice in the University hall convening a meeting of the students to express their feelings on the subject; this notice was torn down by the University authorities. The arrangements were made for the lighting on Friday. On Saturday the gaspipes were cut by the students, who also injured the illuminating materials. The injuries were repaired, but they were once more destroyed by the students, whose victory over "the authorities" was demonstrated by the darkness on the wedding night.

CRUEL MURDER BY A STEPMOTHER.—On Sunday morning last a child, aged a little over five years, living with his father, a collier, named Evan Ellis Reeco, on Monmore Green, in Wolverhampton, ran into a neighbouring public-house, and said that his mother had thrown him to the ground a younger brother aged between three and four years, and had killed him. Information was conveyed to the police, and the child was found in the house laid out in bed a corpse. There was an incised wound on the forehead near the left temple, and one on the lip, and there were bruises upon other parts of the body. It appears that the deceased is the youngest of three children, whose mother is dead; that they are now in the care of a stepmother, who, when she was married to their father was a widow, and had herself three children; and that since her second marriage she has had three other children. About a year ago she was convicted of an aggravated assault upon the child, and sentenced to two months' imprisonment. Since that date frequent complaints have been lodged with the police alleging a continuance of the cruelty for which the stepmother had been convicted. Upon an investigation by the police, the child was found to be suffering from extreme hunger and thirst, so much so that it ate raw meat when supplied with food; and neighbours alleged that, whilst suffering from thirst, the child had drunk dirty water that had collected in front of the house. Whilst the child was so tormented, the stepmother is alleged to have lifted it from the ground, and throwing it back again, broke its arm, for which injuries the child had to be treated by the surgeons of the South Staffordshire Hospital. These statements having been communicated to the Coroner, he has ordered a jury to be summoned, and an inquest to be held. The stepmother alleges that the child died in bed during Saturday night.

SCOTLAND.

LORD PALMERSTON'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND.—Lord Palmerston, after visiting Glasgow and Greenock on the 30th and 31st of March, is to be entertained at a public dinner by the citizens of Edinburgh on the 1st of April. The Lord Provost (whose guest the noble Lord is to be) is to preside, and the list of stewards embraces the names of gentlemen of Conservative as well as Liberal politics. It is expected that the freedom of the city of Edinburgh will be presented to the noble Premier on the occasion of his visit. His Lordship was an alumnus of Edinburgh University about the beginning of the century.

CARRYING THE MAILS IN THE HEBRIDES.—An accident of a very alarming nature took place at Iona last Saturday morning about one o'clock. While the letter-carrier was crossing the Sound of Iona to Mull in his boat it was upset by a heavy breaker. It was a calm morning, but the swell was tremendous, and the boat was only about half-way across when the accident occurred. The postmaster, who was watching it all the time in case of an accident, gave the alarm, and got a boat launched and manned. The boatmen pulled over the large breakers in good style until they reached the boat, which they found bottom upwards, with the letter-carrier and his comrade, its occupants, holding on by the keel. About twenty minutes elapsed from the time the boat upset until the other boat reached them and brought them ashore in a very exhausted state; but, after being promptly attended to, they soon recovered. The postmaster saved the life of the letter-carrier under similar circumstances on the same boat some twenty years ago, before the post-office was established on the island; and this is the fourth time the letter-carrier has had a hairbreadth escape from drowning.

THE PROVINCES.

THE NORWICH GATES.—On Saturday a meeting of the committee formed for presenting the Norwich gates—as attractive a souvenir of the late International Exhibition—to the Prince of Wales, was held at Norwich. The meeting was convened by the Earl of Leicester, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, and was well attended. It was stated that the ladies of Norfolk were joining in the subscription, the Countess of Leicester heading the list of the fair contributors. The time and mode of presenting the gates to the Prince were

discussed, but nothing was determined. It is understood, however, that the presentation will probably be made during the Easter holidays, when the Prince and Princess of Wales are expected to pass a few days at Sandringham.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.—On Friday evening, the 13th inst., Joseph Simpson, a groom, made an attempt to murder his sweetheart, Mary Tomlinson, a domestic servant, at Newton Mount, near Barton-upon-Trent, and afterwards committed suicide. They had been for some months engaged, and on the occasion of the rejoicings at the Prince of Wales's marriage went together to Barton. At the conclusion of the entertainments Tomlinson left the company of Simpson and joined another young man. This irritated her old sweetheart, who purchased a double-barrelled rifle pistol, with a quantity of powder and shot, and on Friday morning proceeded to her master's house, where he asked a boy to tell her that he wished to see her. She went, and gave him back a ring he had bought for their wedding. At half-past four o'clock in the evening the report of firearms was heard, and on inquiry being made into the cause it was found that Tomlinson had been shot. She was found lying on the coal-heap in a state of insensibility. She was immediately attended by medical men, who, however, entertained small hopes of her recovery, as she is seriously wounded under the ear. Simpson was found lying in a ditch, with blood streaming from a wound he had inflicted by the pistol shot. He was not dead, but life was extinct before medical aid could be procured. By his side, close to his right hand, was found a double-barrelled pistol, which had the appearance of having been recently discharged, each nipple bearing an exploded cap.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO 203.
LORD MAYOR IN TROUBLE.

THE Lord Mayor has come to grief in the House of Commons already. He went down to Southampton. He was the idol of the people there. He beat Captain Mangley with all the influence of the Royal Mail Company at his back. He was received with open arms when he arrived at the House by the Conservative chiefs and the party whips, and, for a time, who so great as he, Chief Magistrate of the greatest city in the world, and member of Parliament? And when he made his first speech he got on passing well. It was not a splendid success, it was not an ignominious failure. But then came this unfortunate procession through the City, and then his fortunes turned; the spiteful Fates decided against him; and, as we have said, he has come to grief, and the laurels which but lately flourished so bravely, and looked so fresh and green, that he might well think that they were immortal, have, in the hot and uncongenial atmosphere of the House of Commons, like many other laurels which we have seen, faded and died. It was old General Sir De Lucy Evans who brought the subject of the confusion and obstructions which so hindered and perplexed the Royal cortege before the House. The old Peninsular warrior loves order and discipline, does not believe in improvisations, and, naturally enough, was shocked at the confusion and obstructions in the neighborhood of the Mansion House. It was not, however, his speech that damaged the Lord Mayor, for that was courteous and moderate, and rather deprecatory of the police system than complimentary of the City powers. It was the Lord Mayor himself and Lord Alfred Paget, the Queen's Equerry, and Sir George Grey, the Home Secretary, and the somewhat spiteful remarks of Mr. Ayrton, between whom and the City there is an ancient undying feud, that did the mischief. The Lord Mayor made two mistakes. He spoke unpreparedly, and he spoke too soon. He should have consulted his advisers—that able, experienced, sagacious City Remembrancer, for example—allowed them to get up his case, and adhered closely to the brief which they would have put into his hands. By such a course he would have been spared the ridicule and laughter which confronted and confused him, if he had not established his case. And he should have patiently kept his seat till his foes had expended their fire. He began very well—as young speakers in the House generally do—and for a time all went well; but he soon got confused; the laughter and ironical cheers which assailed him increased his confusion. He then fell away from the cautious style in which he began, and got into what we may call a loose, slipshod oratory, which, though passable at civic feasts, is not suitable to the taste of the House of Commons. And then of course the laughter and ironical cheers were redoubled; and, in short, my Lord Mayor was made painfully to feel, as we said, that he was making a mess of it, than which nothing can be more distressing to a Parliamentary tyro. But let not the Lord Mayor be discouraged. He has abilities, no doubt, or he would not be where he is. In the House of Commons there is room for the play of all sorts of talent. If he cannot shine as a speaker he may be useful on committees. He is not singular. There are scores of men who seldom speak, whose services, nevertheless, the House would be sorry to lose. So, *nil desperandum*, my Lord Mayor. There are laurels for your plucking in other fields than the oratorical.

HER MAJESTY'S CHIEF EQUERRY.

But who have we here, lifting his tall, handsome form above the members? Why, it is her Majesty's Chief Equerry and Clerk Marshal, Lord Alfred Paget. The members stared when they saw the noble Lord arise, for his Lordship rarely speaks. We do not remember that we ever saw him on his legs before. Indeed, speaking is not the noble Lord's vocation. His duty, when not in attendance upon her Majesty, is to make a House, keep a House, cheer the Minister, and vote for the Government; and on any political subject we should as soon expect to hear one of the heralds of arms which adorn the Peas' benches below the gangway speak as the noble Lord. The members, then, well might stare and hang themselves to silence when Lord Alfred Paget rose to speak. There was, however, another reason for this silence besides the rarity of the noble Lord's appearance as a speaker. Lord Alfred is well known in the House for his jovial spirits and his humour and love of fun, and the House expected that he would give it a touch of his quality. In short, that it was about to have some fun, which is a thing that it dearly loves; for, as a Frenchman in the gallery once said when he saw the House convulsed with laughter and knew not the cause, "It is a laughable House." And the House was not disappointed, for, from beginning to end, Lord Alfred's speech was exceedingly amusing. It was a series of pictures. First we had the emerging of the procession from London Bridge into a dense mass of human beings, and the noble Lord with the utmost good temper persuading the people to make way for him and the procession, "as, in fact, they were bound for Windsor." Then the few policemen, so anxious "to see our beautiful Princess" as to forget their duty. The "tremendous squash" at the Mansion House, when the people got on to the Royal carriage, between the wheels and the leaders; the difficult navigation of the streets east of Temple Bar, with its icebergs, as compared with the clear water west; not forgetting the friendly interview between "Alfred Paget and Mr. Rose," preluded by an "excellent luncheon." All this was very humorous, and delighted the House immensely. Perhaps, however, the humour was not so much in the matter as in the manner, which was imitable. If Destiny had pointed Lord Alfred's steps to the stage he might have successfully competed with Backstone and Compton. But it was no run to the Lord Mayor, all this; for, humorous and funny as Lord Alfred Paget's speech was, it was very damaging to the civic magistrates, as it not only described the confusions and obstructions which endangered, but it revealed the fact that the authorities of the City had been quietly warned of the danger, and had been offered assistance both by the Horse Guards and the metropolitan police, and had unaccountably refused the proffered help.

SIR GEORGE GREY.

Nor did Mr. Ayrton's cold and somewhat spiteful speech mend the matter; but it was left to Sir George Grey to consummate the defeat of the City magistrates, and turn the confusion into a rout. Sir De Lucy Evans opened the skirmish in a faint and perfunctory manner, as though he did not court a serious engagement. Lord Alfred Paget played upon the enemy with the light artillery of his wit and humour, and did much damage; Ayrton shot into their ranks his impolished arrows; but Sir George Grey came down upon them like a squadron of heavy horse, and utterly routed them. "You say that no efficient assistance was offered by the Horse Guards." Why, I have learned from the Duke of Cambridge that heretofore his Quartermaster-General to offer every assistance at his command; and that at first all assistance was absolutely refused; but that, on further consideration, you did consent to receive a few mounted artillerymen. And with respect to Sir Richard Mayne, he has informed me that he

attended your Reception Committee in the City, on the 20th of February, and offered to take charge of Fleet-street, so as to liberate your men to go elsewhere." Such was the 11th of Sir George's remarks, and after them there was nothing effective to be said. Alderman Sidney tried to cover the retreat of his brother magistrate, but it was all in vain. He could scarcely get a hearing, and had painfully to learn that the House of Commons is not Gaidhal, and that practised officials like Sir George Grey—cautious, witty speakers like Mr. Ayrton, and high-toned gentlemen like Sir De Lacy Evans and her Majesty's Epurey and Clerk Marshall, are much more difficult to handle than recalcitrant Deputies and Common Councilmen. Men say that Sir George Grey means to strike whilst the iron is hot, and at once bring in a bill to amalgamate the Metropolitan and City Police. But complete as his victory was last week he would not find it so easy to effect the change. Thrice, if we remember rightly, he essayed to reform the Corporation, but was always defeated. To gain a victory over the civic magnates in such a skirmish as that which we have noticed was not difficult; but, let the old Corporation have time to concentrate its forces, and intrench itself behind its old, rusty charter, and its mahogany, and set to work all its officials, and it is still questionable whether Sir George Grey would succeed in making the change—all desirable and consistent with common sense though it may be.

LORD HOTHAM, LORD ELCHO, AND SIR RICHARD MAYNE.

That Friday night on which the battle above described occurred was rather an eventful time. After the City affair was over, there was another skirmish; and here, too, we had a notable veteran in the field—to wit, Major-General Lord Hotham. It is long since his Lordship marched at the head of his regiment of Guards; but he, too, was in the Peninsula, and was also at Waterloo. Indeed, Hotham is an historic name. There was an Admiral Hotham of no small celebrity; he was great uncle of the noble Lord; and, if we mistake not, there was a General Hotham of the same family, who held Hull for the King in the time of the civil wars. It is, however, with Lord Hotham, member for the East Riding, that we now have to do. His Lordship is one of the recognised characters of the House of Commons. He is a fine, tall, soldierly man, somewhat advanced in years, but still unbent; and as he marches into the House the stranger in the Lobby sees at once that he is somebody of note. But it is his curious costume rather than his person that catches the eye of the stranger. Lately he has taken to wearing occasionally a brown, loose coat. But he commonly appears in blue, tail-coat ornamented with brass buttons, the waist of which coat is high up his back, and the tail thereof much more sharp and pointed than is the fashion of the present day. In short, the pattern of the coat was settled some half century ago, and has never been changed. Indeed, the dress of the noble Lord altogether is not of this time, but is just what used to be worn by country gentlemen fifty years back. His Lordship is a very diligent attendant in the House—rarely absent from prayers—and is generally to be seen in his place up to midnight. He, however, speaks but seldom. The cause of his rising on this occasion was a querulous attack made upon Sir Richard Mayne by Lord Elcho, of volunteer celebrity. The *Times* had found fault with the military arrangements in Hyde Park, which forced the people so far back that they could not see the procession. Whereupon, Sir Richard Mayne informed the *Times* that it was not his fault. He had arranged to allow the people to be so near that they could get a good view of the Princess, but his arrangements were all disturbed by the volunteers taking position 120 yards back; and hence the squabble. Lord Elcho was indignant that a civilian should presume to censure the military authorities, and he brought the matter before the House, and made a very tart and captious speech thereon; and, as the Secretary-at-War rather sided with complainant, it seemed at first as if Lord Elcho would gain his object, and that poor Sir Richard Mayne would have to consider himself snubbed. Fortune, however, had favoured Sir Richard that day; for as he was walking up Whitehall, thinking, perhaps, with a little annoyance of the notice of Lord Elcho which he had seen in the *Times*, he accidentally ran against (as the phrase is) Lord Hotham. This was most opportune: Lord Hotham was his friend. At once he began to unfold his tale to the noble Lord. "Will you explain this matter, my Lord?" "Of course I will," was the short soldierly reply of the veteran. And down he went to the House, arranging the matter in his mind as he went, and marshalling his forces, as it were. And so it happened that when Lord Elcho had delivered his charge, and had been supported by Sir George Lewis, up rose Lord Hotham's tall, stately form, in defence of his friend. And uncommonly well he did his work. As a reply to Lord Elcho the speech of the gallant General was complete—crashing in fact, as one said in our hearing, there was as much difference between the loose array of Lord Elcho's speech and the live, effective reply of Lord Hotham, as there is between the loose marching of a regiment of volunteers and the massive unity that there is in the tramp of a body of Guards. We suspect that Lord Hotham's remarks were inspired by a little jealousy for the service. "Hotham did that well," said an old soldier to another old soldier. "Yes, he did," was the reply, "and it is time that these volunteers should have their combs cut a trifle, or we old regulars shall be swayed out of the field." But however this may be, we have seldom listened to a more effective reply. And great must have been the joy of Sir Richard Mayne the next morning when at the breakfast table he read the verbatim report of his friend's speech in the *Times*. There is one thing, however, must be said before we part with the subject: Sir Richard Mayne and Lord Hotham were right, and Lord Elcho, as is sanctioned by the War Office, was wrong; and, as we have heard before,

Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just.

LORD ROBERT ONCE AGAIN.

"What, again, my Lord—twice in a week! Why, you must be inspired!" Such were our reflections when, on the same eventful night we saw Lord Robert Cecil upon his legs. But if the noble Lord's appearance so soon again was remarkable, his speech was more so. It was on the Army Estimates, when the House was in Committee, that Lord Robert Cecil spoke. He had been sedulously poring over a French Blackbook making comparison between the cost of the management of the Imperial army, and comparing it with our own, and this speech was the result. And never did Lord Robert show to such advantage. His face was flushed with as much order as a regiment of guards with the gallant old Lord Hotham at their head; and then, to keep to our military figure, his charges were delivered against the War Office with as much precision and damaging effect as those guards were wont to deliver their charges against a foe. In our last we said that Lord Robert often spoke to an inattentive audience; but it was not so on this occasion. The House was too attentive even to cheer. Its feared to applaud lest it should lose some of the noble Lord's facts or break the continuity of his argument. It is true that much of this close attention was attributable to the fact that the noble Lord had penetrated and worked a new quarry. There has always been a vague suspicion that they do these things better in France. This suspicion, however, arose only from the well-known fact that, on the whole, the French do not expend so much about their army as we do. Nobody, that we remember before, had worked this mine, analysed these figures, and brought them in detail into comparison with our own. Still others might have done all this, and yet have been unable to use new materials; for as there are men who can make bricks, but cannot build a house; so there are many members of Parliament who can collect materials and cannot use them with effect. Lord Robert, however, showed in this speech that he possesses all the diligence and skill of a practised investigator, and, what is more uncommon, the art of clearing out his facts with logical precision and effect. Forward, then, my Lord! "Stern delights and life in glorious days!" midwife somewhat your asperity; but your head up above the medieval bug which has enveloped you; in short, be a man of the present and not of the past age; and then, in spite of fate and oracle, you must take position—and a high one—in the next Conservative Government.

Imperial Parliament.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

GREAT-EASTERN RAILWAY EXTENSION BILL.

The bill for the proposed extension of the Great Eastern Railway to Finsbury-circus was under discussion. Lord SHAFTESBURY moved the rejection of the bill. After a lengthy discussion, however, he withdrew his motion, and the debate was adjourned for a fortnight.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WOODEN AND IRON SHIPS.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. LINDSAY moved the following resolution:—"That it is not expedient to commence at the present time building wooden ships which are to be cased with iron armour-plates." The hon. gentleman, in supporting this motion, contended that the experience of the shipbuilders and shipowners of the world served to show the superior cheapness and efficiency of iron ships as compared with ships built of timber.

Lord C. PAGET said he felt convinced it was absolutely necessary that this country should continue to build iron-plated ships. We had at present twenty-one such vessels built or being constructed; but that was a number than that which they had built or were building in France. Wood offered special advantages in carrying out a work of that description. Iron ships when laid up in harbour were very apt to foul, and to have their speed in consequence greatly diminished. Men-of-war, it should at the same time be remembered, had to be kept stationary at a number of important points for much longer periods than merchant vessels, and were, therefore, when they were constructed of iron, peculiarly liable to that deterioration. He had further to observe that in the present unsettled state of the science of iron shipbuilding it would be impossible for the Admiralty to furnish contractors with specifications to which, as the works progressed, they could adhere. He warned the House that if they were to resolve on constructing of iron the whole of our armour-plated ships, they must incur an additional expenditure, for which they would have to provide by supplemental navy estimates.

A long discussion ensued, and on a division Mr. Lindsay's resolution was rejected, the numbers being: For the resolution, 81; against it, 164.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Salmon Exportation Bill was read a third time and passed, and the Naval Coast Volunteers Bill passed through Committee.

Some other bills were forwarded a stage.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Registration of Births and Deaths (Ireland) Bill and the Malt Duties Bill were read a second time, and the Drainage of Land (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CITY AND METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Sir DE LACY EVANS brought under the consideration of the House the expediency of amalgamating the metropolitan and city of London police establishments. The hon. and gallant member said it was well known that the Royal procession on Saturday last had been seriously and dangerously interrupted in the City, and that on the night of the illuminations eight persons at least had been crushed to death in the same part of the metropolis; while along all the other portions of the line the procession had passed on freely, and not a single life had been lost during the illumination.

Mr. Alderman ROSE said, that the failure of the police arrangements on Saturday had arisen out of a series of extraordinary conjunctures. In the first place, the City Commissioner of Police had died only a week before the great popular demonstration of Saturday. Then, again, the whole pressure of that demonstration had been thrown on the City police. And, further, an additional source of confusion had been created by the passage of various of the metropolitan police along the great City thoroughfares in the course of the morning. It had been stated that an offer of assistance for that occasion had been made by the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police to the City authorities; but there was no truth in that rumour; and he had to add that the only aid they had received from the military authorities consisted in the presence of a number of men of the mounted artillery, who, in consequence of the large horse trappings worn by their horses, were necessarily ill-fitted for such a service. The volunteers, too, had contributed by their movements to complicate the difficulty. The City authorities had given orders that the volunteers should form mere ornamental portions of the spectacle, and that they should take no part in keeping the line of the procession; and the fact was that they had only stood in the way throughout the day. He submitted to the House that circumstances of this exceptional character would not justify them in deciding that the citizens of London should be deprived of the control they had hitherto exercised over their own police. The City authorities, however, felt that there were circumstances in the scene of Saturday which called for careful inquiry, which was being made.

Sir G. GREY said there could be no doubt that the Royal procession on Saturday, which had passed readily through all the other portions of the metropolis, had met with a serious obstruction in the City. He had been informed by gentlemen who had been in attendance on the Royal party that along that part of the line there appeared to have been a total want of any directing authority. His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief had informed him that he had offered to the City authorities any military assistance they might have thought necessary for the purpose of keeping the line; but that offer had, in the first instance, been refused, and it was with some difficulty that the services of some mounted artillerymen had afterwards been accepted. Sir R. Mayne, too, had positively assured him that on the 28th of February he had attended the reception committee of the City, and had offered to take charge of the line along Fleet-street, but that offer also had been declined. He believed that the City police were sufficient for its ordinary duties, but that it was not sufficiently numerous to be such a pressure as that which it had to encounter on Saturday last. He thought it would be wrong for him to say at once that there should be an amalgamation of the City and the metropolitan police establishments. But he felt persuaded that there should be such an alteration of the existing law upon that subject as would enable the City authorities to supply a sufficient force for extraordinary occasions.

After some further discussion the subject dropped, and the House shortly after went into Committee of Supply, and resumed the consideration of the Army Estimates.

MONDAY, MARCH 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Lord Chancellor introduced a bill to amend the Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Act, and the bill was read a first time.

Earl GRANVILLE, in moving the second reading of the Union Relief Aid Act (1862) Continuance Bill, observed that, although there was at present a marked decrease in the amount of relief afforded in the cotton manufacturing districts, there still existed a sufficient amount of distress in those districts to render necessary a continuance of the Act of last year. The bill was then read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ENGLISH POLICE IN WARSAW.

Sir G. GREY, in reply to questions from Mr. Hennessy and Mr. D. Griffith, offered some further explanations with reference to the mission of two metropolitan police officers to Warsaw in the course of the last autumn. The right hon. Baronet added that he had acted in that matter on his own judgment, and without any communication with the Prime Minister or the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

AFFAIRS OF GREECE.

Mr. B. COCHRANE, in moving an address to the Crown for further correspondence relating to the affairs of Greece, referred to the deep interest which we had in the good government of that country, and then stated that the Greeks, by the almost unanimous offer of their throne to Prince Alfred had evinced their readiness to look up to England for guidance and protection. But he regretted to find himself compelled to add that in his opinion the conduct of her Majesty's Government towards Greece throughout the recent transactions had been neither just nor generous, and that their dubious and insincere policy had been productive of great injury to the Greek people.

Mr. LAYARD defended the policy of the Government in reference to that question. They were precluded by the engagements into which this country had entered from allowing an English Prince to accept the throne of Greece; and, on the other hand, it was impossible for them to prevent the Greek people from putting forward any candidate they might think proper. He believed that the moderate course which the British Government pursued in Eastern Europe was the best calculated to promote the real interests of the Greeks themselves, and at the same time to maintain the peace of the world.

Lord J. MANNERS said that after a very careful examination of the papers which had been laid before Parliament he was compelled to come to the conclusion that the policy pursued by her Majesty's Government upon that question was not calculated to maintain the dignity of this country or to promote the peace of Eastern Europe.

Lord PALMERSTON said he had been anxious to know what could be the ground upon which Mr. Cochrane could have found an attack upon the Government. There had been personal attacks upon Earl Russell, who could afford to be perfectly indifferent to them. One or two things appeared to have gravely weighed upon the minds of those who took the same view as Mr. Cochrane, first, that the Greeks had exhibited such unpopularity in the desire to elect an English Prince, and that they were not informed at once that Prince Alfred could not be their King. But they were told so at the earliest moment. Then it was said that, when they were so told, and they went on to elect the Prince, our Minister was instructed not to interfere. But were Mr. Scarlett and Mr. Elliott to have gone about among the

electors and to have told them not to elect the Prince? Had this been done, interference would have been blamed as indecent. Then it was said the Greek had been neglected by the British Government; but the Government had lost no time in endeavouring to secure an acceptable candidate for the crown of Greece; it was for the Greeks themselves to choose; the British Government could only suggest a choice. He was, therefore, at a loss to know in what respect their conduct, which had been frank and straightforward from the beginning, was open to blame. As to Turkey and the European provinces of Turkey—topics which had been imported into the debate—he remarked that discussion was spreading in Turkey, where the government was improving, and although many privileges and equalities remained to be conceded to the Christians, they were much better off than they had been. If Mr. Cochrane withdrew his motion, when further papers on the subject were received he would have no objection to lay them on the table.

After a few remarks from Mr. S. Fitzgerald, the motion was withdrawn, and the House went into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Union Relief Aid Act (1862) Continuance Bill passed through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CLOSING OF PUBLIC-HOUSES ON SUNDAY.

Mr. SOMES moved for leave to bring in a bill to entirely close public-houses on Sunday.

Mr. FACKS said that, though opposed to tipping, he thought wholly to close public-houses on Sunday would be so monstrous an injustice to the lower classes that he should resist the introduction of the bill.

Sir G. GREY, without giving his sanction to the bill, did not oppose its introduction.

After a few remarks by Mr. Baines, Mr. Roebuck, and Mr. Horsfall, the House divided, when the motion was carried by 141 to 52.

THE GAME LAWS.

Mr. W. FORSTER moved for a select Committee to inquire into the operation of laws relating to game, to report whether in their opinion any, and if any what, alterations are required therein. He stated the reasons why he thought an inquiry desirable—the hurried manner in which the Act of last Session was passed, the different interpretations put upon it, and the counter-decisions it had undergone. The interests, moral and social, of the labouring classes, the increase of poaching, and, above all, the perplexed state of the law, furnished additional reasons for an inquiry, and it might be extended to collateral questions, which he indicated.

The motion was seconded by Lord ENFIELD, who, though he had voted for the second reading of the bill of last year, voted against the third reading, being convinced that the subject ought to undergo a previous inquiry.

Mr. THOMPSON moved, as an amendment, a resolution that it is desirable that the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the game laws should be postponed until further experience shall have been obtained of the working of the Prevention of Poaching Act.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. PAUL.

Sir G. GREY said he had stated last Session that if a Committee of Inquiry into this subject was moved for he should be prepared to assent to the motion, and, in redemption of that pledge, he should vote for the appointment of a Committee. He thought that a large proportion of the crimes of the country which were connected with the game laws demanded the serious consideration of the House, and it had been admitted by Mr. Thompson that these laws were in an anomalous state. He must say, in his opinion, there were abundant grounds for granting an inquiry.

Mr. Newdegate and Lord A. Churchill spoke shortly to a very impatient House, and, upon a division, the amendment was carried by 176 to 167.

CHANGES OF SURNAME.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved an address for returns of the names of all persons who have applied for licenses to change their names since 1850; or the instances in which such licenses have been granted and refused, with the reasons for refusal; of the principles which have been observed in granting and refusing such licenses; of the amount of fees demanded for such licenses, and the manner in which the moneys have been applied. In his argument in support of the motion he contended that no license whatever was required by law for a change of name, and that no official person was entitled to interfere and prevent the operation of the law in this particular.

After some discussion in the motion, with certain modifications, was agreed to.

EMBANKMENT OF THE THAMES.

Mr. COWPER moved for leave to bring in a bill for the embankment of part of the River Thames on the south side thereof, in the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, and for the purposes, explaining the great improvements provided for by the bill, which would empower the Board of Works to defray the cost out of the Thames Embankment and Metropolis Fund.

Mr. W. Williams and Mr. Cubitt made a few observations, and the motion was agreed to.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF CHILD-STEALING.

A NOVEL and romantic case of child-stealing, which has created the greatest interest throughout Wiltshire, engaged the attention of the Salisbury magistrates on Saturday. A woman named Annie Shipsey was charged with stealing an infant from the wife of John Yarett, a workman employed on the London and South-Western Railway, and her husband, John Shipsey, stood up to give evidence for the fact. A summons had likewise been issued against Mr. Samuel Pyle, a surgeon of more than twenty years' standing at Amesbury, to show cause why he should not be similarly charged as an accessory.

The facts, as they were deposed to in evidence, were these:—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., Mrs. Yarett, the prosecutrix, who had been confined only about five weeks, was on her way to see her mother, who is an inmate of one of the Salisbury almshouses, having her baby in her arms, when she was accosted by the female prisoner, who said that she had been taken suddenly ill, and would be glad if Mrs. Yarett would accompany her into a public-house hard by for the purpose of having some peppermint. Mrs. Yarett agreed, and they had not been more than a few minutes in the house when she was asked by the female prisoner to go to a draper's shop in the town for a parcel which had been left there for a Mrs. Brown, and which she herself was too ill to be able to fetch. Mrs. Yarett went, leaving her baby in the hands of the prisoner; but, when she returned to say that there was no parcel for any Mrs. Brown, the prisoner and the infant had disappeared. Every effort was made by the police to trace the woman, who was a perfect stranger to the prosecutrix, that night, but without the slightest success.

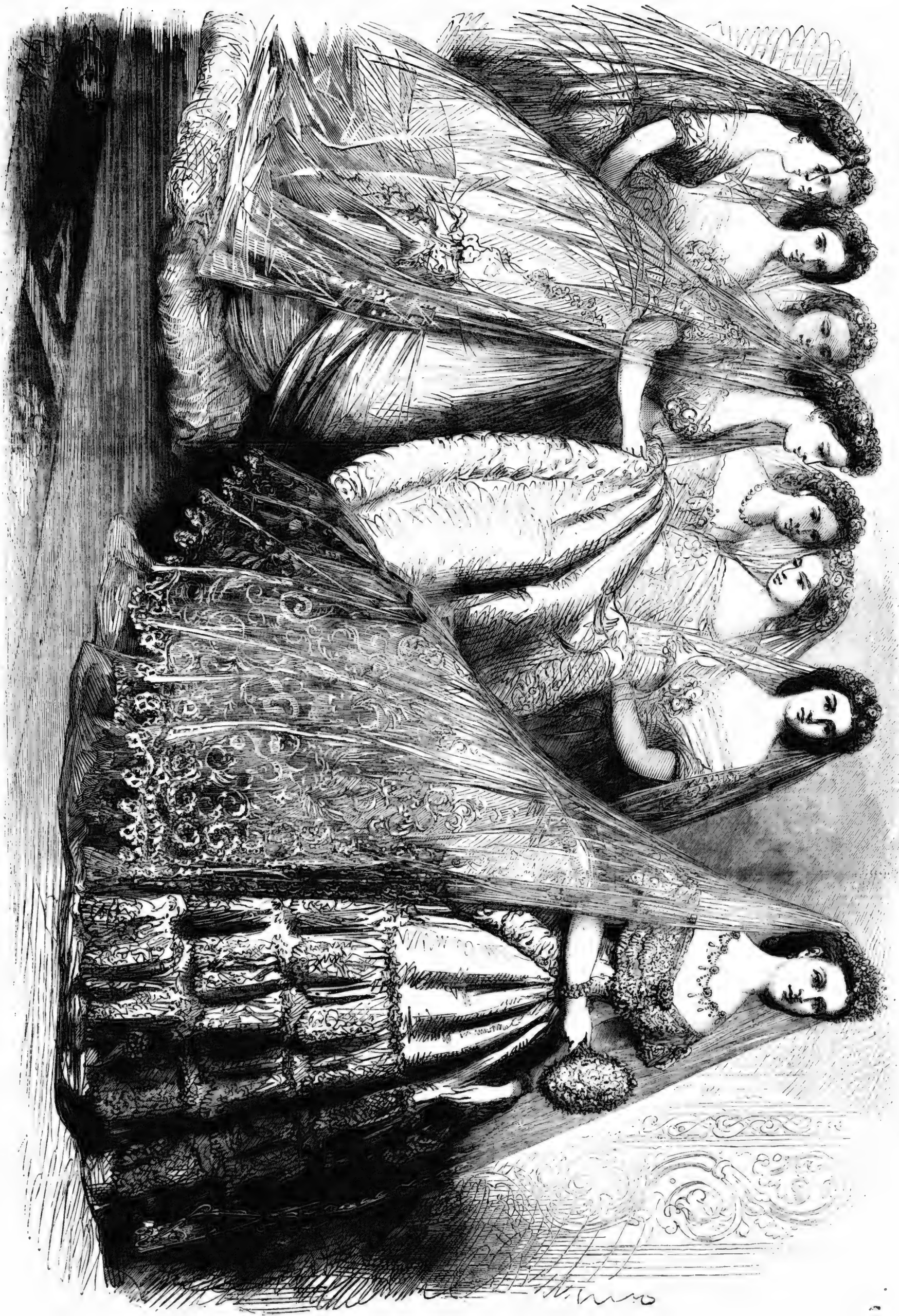
On the following Thursday it was ascertained that the female prisoner had accepted a carter, to whom she was known, on Tuesday evening, about a mile from Salisbury, saying, "I wish you were going the other way; you see I have got my bargain." "When did that happen?" he inquired, and she replied, "Since I left home this morning." It was further ascertained that a farmer returning from Salisbury market had given her a lift as far as Amesbury, and that she told him she had three children. In doing the infant which she then had in her arms. This being known to be untrue, Superintendent Caddon, of the Salisbury police, went to her house on a farm at Milton, where her husband was shepherd, and there found an infant being nursed by her sister. The female prisoner, who was in bed up stairs, stated that she was confined immediately after her return from Salisbury on Tuesday evening, and that two women, neighbours, were present. These women, however, did not appear to have been called in until after the little stranger was in the house, and having his suspicions that the said little stranger was considerably more than two or three days old, Mr. Caddon called in Mr. Pyle, and paid him the usual fee to examine the woman. He went upstairs, and in a few minutes gave it as his opinion that she had been recently confined, that she had milk, and that the child might be about four or five days old. The statement of John Shipsey, the husband, who was then sent for, was to the effect that his wife was suddenly taken in labour on her way home from Salisbury, and that circumstances were known to him conclusive of the fact. To this statement he did not afterwards adhere, and consequently further suspicion was excited.

On the following day Mrs. Shipsey was examined by Mr. Winder, surgeon, of Salisbury, who gave it as his opinion that she had not been recently confined, even if she had ever been confined at all, and that the child was at least four or five weeks old. A warrant was accordingly obtained, or the apprehension of Mrs. Shipsey and her husband, but on Saturday Mr. Pyle refused to allow his wife to enter the house, on the ground that the woman was suffering from inflammation. Later in the day Mr. Martin Coates, another surgeon of Salisbury, was taken over to examine her, and, while his opinion fully corroborated that of Mr. Winder, he could discover no traces of inflammation, although the woman complained of pain on pressure. She was very agitated, and Mr. Coates accordingly suggested that she had better not be removed before Sunday. The house was placed in charge of a constable, and Shipsey himself was taken to Salisbury. He then made a written statement to the effect that his wife came home between six and seven on Tuesday evening, and, knocking at the door, said, "Oh, dear! oh, dear! I have got my bargain." He said, "What in the world have you got?" and she replied, "Oh, do take hold of it and let it go up stairs." The infant, he said, had only a calico bandage round it. He asked her if he should go for a surgeon, and she said, "No," he had better call in some of the neighbours, which he did. Mrs. Yarett was taken to the house, and immediately identified the child, which was given up to her. She likewise identified the calico bandage, but none of the other clothes which the infant had on when it was lost could be found, and it is supposed that the prisoner destroyed them on her way home. On Sunday evening Mr. Pyle consented to her removal, and expressed his regret at not having originally made a more minute examination. On Monday Shipsey and his wife were taken before the magistrates, and formally remanded until Saturday, the latter still declaring, and calling Heaven to witness, that the child was her own. On Saturday she said that if she stole it she could not recollect it, and begged the magistrates to have in view upon her husband. Mr. L. was, on the part of Mr. Pyle, contented that he had a maid to do office. More than a guess did not render him liable to an indictment as an accessory. The Bench, taking this view of the case, dismissed the summons. John Shipsey, too, was discharged, but his wife was committed for trial at the Salisbury Borough Sessions.



STREWING FLOWERS BEFORE THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS ON THE TERRACE FIER, GRAVESEND.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA IN EUDAP COSTUME, ATTENDED BY HER BRIDEMAIDS



IMPROVED DWELLINGS FOR THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.

The first block of improved dwellings for the industrial classes, built by Mr. Alderman Waterlow in a dense part of Finsbury, was formally opened on Saturday morning in the presence of a large and distinguished company. The block stands in Mark Street, Paul Street, near St. Leonard's-square and is to be the centre of two long wings, which are to project from each side in an easterly and a westerly direction. A space has been cleared in front, on which it is proposed to build a church, probably surrounded by other similar dwellings, if the present buildings do not belie the rather sanguine calculations of their projectors. The block stands about 50 ft. high, has a cheerful frontage facing the north-east, in which are seen five floors and a terrace on the roof, and is laid out to accommodate twenty families. Inside the arrangements seem well planned, and very much like those in fashion at the Royal Dramatic College, or at certain humble "club chambers."

The dwellings have been designed and built by Mr. Matthew Allen for Alderman Waterlow, on a calculation that they are to return the usual rate of house-profit—viz., eight or nine per cent per annum, and the following were amongst the most important points which seemed to the projectors to require consideration:—

1. A ground plan easily adaptable to any plot of ground, capable of repetition to any extent, and preventing in the elevation a pleasing and attractive appearance.
2. Suites of rooms at different rents so planned as to secure the greatest economy of space, materials, and labour in the erection of the building, and at the same time provide for the exclusive use of each family, within the external floor of the lettings, every essential requisite of domestic convenience.
3. The construction of a flat roof capable of being used as a drying and recreation ground, so as to leave as much space as possible available for building.
4. Planning the positions of the doors, windows, and fireplaces, with reference to a suitable arrangement of the furniture of the apartments, and the placing of proper fireplaces, cupboards, shelves, &c., in every room.
5. An efficient system of drainage and ventilation.
6. Making the joinery as near as possible to a uniform size and pattern, so that machinery might be brought to bear in economizing its manufacture to a considerable extent.
7. The discovery and adaptation of a new material combining the properties of strength and durability, adaptability, attractiveness of appearance, and cheapness in an eminent degree.
8. The combination of these advantages in buildings which, when let at fair rentals, would produce a good return on the outlay incurred in their erection.
9. The selection of a locality where the ground rent would not be excessive, although the tenants would be sufficiently near their work to enable them to take their meals at home.

A detailed description of the building, prepared for the visitors, partly tells us how these advantages have been attained:—

Its general plan may be described as a parallelogram of 54 ft. by 38 ft., divided into four sections by a party-wall in the centre and two passages in the middle of each wing. The two centre sections are set back about 3 ft. from the line of frontage, for the purpose of giving space for a balcony of that width on each of the upper floors. Each section comprises one suite of rooms, to which access is obtained from passages leading (on all the upper floors) direct from the balcony. The balconies are reached by a fire-proof staircase having a semi-elliptical form, the entrances to which are shown on the elevation by the two doorways in the centre of the building. This staircase is continued to and gives access to the roof. The larger lettings, consisting of three rooms and a washhouse, occupy the end sections of the building. The living-room is provided with a range having oven and boiler. Leading out of the living-room is the washhouse or scullery, which contains in every case what may be called the accessories of the dwelling—water-closet, sink, a small fireplace, washing-copper, dust-shoot, water-closet, &c. It is expected that the fireplace in the washhouse will conduce greatly to the comfort of the living-room in the summer time. There is a comfortable bedroom, having a fireplace; a capacious cupboard is arranged in the party-wall between this room and the entrance lobby, and over the latter is a useful receptacle for the storage of bulky objects. Passing out towards the front parlour is a series of shelves having an artificial stone bottom and back, intended by its proximity to the living-room to serve as a cupboard for provisions, &c. There is a spacious, handsome parlour, having two windows. The fireplace is placed a little out of the centre of the room, so as to leave a convenient space in which to put an additional bed in cases where this would be required to be used as a bedroom. On the other side of the fireplace is a sideboard and cupboard. The centre sections, comprising the smaller lettings, consist of two rooms and a washhouse, &c. The washhouse and living-room are exactly similar to those in the larger letting. The bedroom can be conveniently converted into a parlour by arranging a set of curtains across the recess at the back of the room, and thus dividing the part where the bed would be placed from the rest of the apartment. The plan is the same on each side of the party-walls, and every floor or flat is a repetition of the other. Close to the ceilings of all the rooms a ventilator is placed, which communicates with air shafts running through the centres of the chimney stack. The air is thus constantly purified, and a system of natural ventilation is produced. The lower panes of the windows are filled with ornamental ground glass, so that no window-blinds are necessary. The windows are constructed on a somewhat novel principle, being made to open outwards like ordinary French casements; but the two lower panes are not made to open, so that the danger of children falling out is avoided, as well as the disadvantages of the ordinary window sashes. All the rooms are 8 ft. 9 in. in height, and the largest are about 12 ft. square. Drainage is effected by means of 4-inch stoneware pipes passing from the top of the building, down the corners of the warehouses, directly to the common sewer. The dust-shaft carries the dust to covered receptacles at the base of the building, and each shaft is provided with an iron cover so as to prevent the return of dust and effluvia. The dust-shafts are also continued to the top of the building, and act as ventilators to the dustbins. The greater part of the rooms, especially the living-rooms, have scarcely any external walls, so that they will be always warm and dry. All the rooms are plastered and papered, and the washhouses are plastered and coloured. Every tenant has his apartments completely to himself, and nothing is used in common, except the roof as a drying and recreation ground. By extending the area of the building three or four feet in every direction, the size of the rooms could be easily increased, and the suites of rooms obtained well adapted to any class of the community. The party-wall on the roofs might be dispensed with in cases where several blocks are built together, and the roofs would thus form a most agreeable private promenade. The principal feature in the building, however, is the adoption of a new material, without the use of which it would have been quite impossible to have carried out the building so as to comply with the condition that the cost of erection should be such that the rent of the building would form a sufficiently good return on the outlay as to justify and, in fact, recommend the repetition of the experiment on a larger scale. The use of ordinary materials in the place of the artificial stone about to be described would have increased the cost of the building by at least 25 per cent, and so rendered a good return on it impossible. This new material is an extremely hard, durable, and light artificial stone. It is composed of clinkers, culm, hard broken coke, and similar rough porous calcined substances, in the proportion of four parts of these to one part of Portland cement. Sufficient water is added to these materials to bring the composition, when well mixed up, to the consistency of ordinary mortar. It is then placed in moulds or troughs, for the purpose of giving to it any desired form, such as lintels, arches, chimneypieces, stairs, window dressings and sills, slabs, &c. In the composition of the tinted portions of the plan—the fireproof floors of the washhouses, balconies, and passages—and in the making of the flat roof, it is applied in the following manner:—Bars of 3 in. by 1 in. iron are stretched edgewise across the building from front to back, at distances of 2 ft. apart, and carried into the brickwork of the walls, so as to form ties, and bind the building into a solid mass. Half-inch iron rods, 2 ft. apart from each other, pass through the iron bars already described, and beneath the network of iron thus formed a temporary layer of boards is placed, and then the patent material is filled into a thickness of about 4 in. in the course of a day or two the whole mass sets with sufficient hardness to allow of the removal of the boards, and after a week or ten days' exposure to the air it becomes so hard and firm that it will stand any amount of pressure

ALTERATION IN THE LITURGY.—An order in Council was published in the Gazette of Friday week to the effect that, in the morning and evening prayers, in the Litany, and in all other parts of the public service, as well as in the occasional offices in the Book of Common Prayer, where the Royal family is appointed to be particularly prayed for, the following form and order shall be observed:—"Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal family." No edition of the Book of Common Prayer is henceforth to be printed without this amendment; and in the meantime, and until copies of such editions may be had, no parsons, vicars, and curates within the realm are ordered (for the prevention of mistakes), with the pen, to correct and amend all such prayers in their church books. Another order in Council is also published that henceforth every minister and preacher shall, in his respective church, congregation, or assembly, pray in express words "For her Most Sacred Majesty Queen Victoria, Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal family."

THE ACCIDENTS AT THE ILLUMINATIONS.—Mr. Isaac Walker, aged forty-six years, silk manufacturer, who resided at Stamford-hill, and who suffered fracture of the ribs by the pressure of the crowd near Cornhill, at the illuminations, has expired at Guy's Hospital in consequence of the injuries received. This makes a total of eight deaths by the accidents at the illuminations. The Home Secretary has, by Her Majesty's command, addressed a letter to the Lord Mayor expressing her sorrow for the lamentable accidents, and commanding that an inquiry be made into the circumstances of the survivors, with a view, if need be, of ministering to their wants.

TO NEWSAGENTS AND THE PUBLIC.

The proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES deeply regret that, owing to a most serious accident resulting from the extra steam put upon the machinery employed in printing the paper, they were only able partially to execute the largely-increased demand for the Double Number of last week. They beg to intimate that an ample supply of the Marriage Numbers for the 7th and 14th of March is now on hand, and that all future orders will be promptly executed.

THE MARRIAGE NUMBERS OF THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

THE Two Double Numbers of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES which we have already published have been insufficient to exhaust even the principal incidents connected with the recent ROYAL MARRIAGE CEREMONIAL. Next week we propose to continue our series of illustrations of this interesting national event, and to include among our Engravings an elaborate representation of the great Civic Procession—Visit of the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra to Finsbury, with the Decorations in front of the College—The Bridesmaids' Procession passing along the Choir of St. George's Chapel—The Bride and Bridegroom leaving the Chapel for the Castle—The Princess of Wales Signing the Marriage Register in the Green Drawing-room, Windsor Castle—The Dejeuner in St. George's Hall—Departure of the Bride and Groom from the Castle by George IV.'s Gateway—Their Reception at Southampton—Embarkation on board the Osborne Royal Yacht—The Arrival of the Prince and Princess at Osborne—The Prince and Princess in the Grounds at Osborne—Grand Display of Fireworks in Windsor Home Park—Illuminations at Southampton, Birmingham, &c.

The Double Number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES for March 14, contains numerous Engravings connected with the Reception of Princess Alexandra, including the Royal Salute at the North-Disembarkation at Gravesend—Departure of the Prince and Princess from the Terrace Pier—Their arrival at the Bricklayers' Arms Station—The Triumphal Arch at London Bridge—The Royal Procession crossing the Bridge—The Lady Mayoress presenting the Princess with a Banquet in front of the Mansion House—The Prince and Princess passing along the line of Volunteers in Hyde Park—Interior of St. George's Chapel during the Marriage: the Archbishop pronouncing the Benediction—Birdseye View of Windsor Castle—Portraits of the Brothers and Sisters of Princess Alexandra—Various Biblical Presents from the Prince of Wales to the Princess, to his Brothers, to his Groomsman, and to private friends—View of the Birthplace of Princess Alexandra, &c.

Price of the Double Number Sixpence; by post for eight stamps.

The ILLUSTRATED TIMES of March 7, forming the first of the series of Royal Marriage Numbers, contained a variety of Engravings relative to Princess Alexandra and her family, including Portraits of Prince and Princess Christian of Denmark—View of their Summer Palace near Copenhagen—Views of Sandringham Hall, the Hunting-Seat, and Marlborough House, the Town Residence of the Prince of Wales—Portraits of twenty former Princes and Princesses of Wales, engraved from the best authorities, and accompanied by Memoirs, and of all the various Princes of Wales and Heirs Apparent to the British Crown, including records of their marriages, &c., and embracing much curious and interesting information. With this Number were also issued large Portraits of the Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra, enclosed in an elaborate and tastefully-designed framework, and carefully printed on a separate sheet of paper.

Price of the Number and Supplement 4½ d., or free by post for 6 stamps.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1863.

BENEVOLENCE AND BUSINESS.

THERE has long been bitter feud between the philanthropists and the political economists. The great ground of debate has been the practice of almsgiving, in its most extended sense, and in its application to all kinds whatever of charitable subvention. The public opinion has been swayed this way or that, according to the circumstances of the day and their tendency towards action, now upon the reason, and now upon the sympathies. Generally speaking, the instincts of the intelligent classes have been sufficient direction as to the side to which popular feeling ought to incline. The pressure of sudden inevitable misfortune upon the hapless has occasionally loosened the purse-strings of an entire nation, in spite of all the teachings of the economists. On the other hand, we are not unaccustomed to the experience of notable instances in which the ready, helping hand has unconsciously done no little injury by weakening the springs of self-reliance, and transforming unexpected poverty into listless, idle pauperism. There is more to be said on each side, and with equal truth, than readers might care to hear, and certainly far more than can be necessary for the direction of the reflective and philosophic mind.

It is certain that no two opposing principles of truth can coexist in the system of human life, whether this be regarded politically, religiously, or rationally, or under all these aspects, considered, as they ought to be, in combination. If two such truths appear to clash, the cause can only be in the ignorance of those who know not how to reconcile them. An event of the past few days will serve to illustrate our meaning.

It is long since the magnificent donation of Mr. Peabody was announced as having been made for the amelioration of the dwellings of the London poor. It is not many weeks since we called attention to the fact that the gift thus generously bestowed had been allowed for upwards of twelve months to slumber in utter uselessness. We were worldly enough to suggest that the best means of dealing with that donation would be not to dispense it as a charity, but to lay it out in such a manner as to secure a profit, and we ventured to offer certain suggestions to this end.

While the great Peabody gift has yet remained in its original and pecuniary form, a London citizen has achieved a triumph by showing in a practical manner that one of the best things a man of business can do with his money is to increase it by carrying out, to his own profit, the precise objects for which Mr. Peabody so nobly sacrificed an amount equal to a large fortune.

This lesson has been exemplified by Mr. Waterlow, Alderman of London, and member of one of its best-known firms. We believe we do Mr. Waterlow no injustice in treating him rather as a far-sighted man of business than as a speculative philan-

thropist. We have heard of him before. Unless we err slightly the first telegraphic wires crossing the thoroughfares of London were those set up by the firm of Waterlows for more rapid communication between their factories and commercial establishments. We know the name, too, in connection with a leading legal case, in which this firm established its own right to sue for small debts in a superior court, irrespective of all county-court enactments to the contrary, by the simple means of having a partner resident above twenty miles from town, and insisting upon the privilege thereby obtained. The consequence of this is that it is wise for the debtors to the firm to discharge their debts and enable Mr. Waterlow to lay out his money to his own advantage and that of the public.

Mr. Alderman Waterlow, then, like a man of business, has simply done with his own money, and in a few weeks what a certain committee have been talking about and not doing for many months with Mr. Peabody's. He has purchased a site of ground, not virgin soil, but the rising-place of a heap of equal tenements, and after demolishing these has erected in their place a block of buildings in which a score of families of the labouring class may be comfortably and pleasantly housed. Having done this, he completes his task where the Peabody trustees appear to have completed theirs—namely, by talking about it. And he tells us that his enterprise has cost him £2000 only; that he has specially avoided anything like an institutional appearance; and that he has brought into use for his structures a new and economical material, combining strength, durability, adaptability, attractiveness of appearance, and cheapness in an eminent degree. As to the appearance of the buildings, and their comforts and conveniences, he invites inspection. He, moreover, intimates that his outlay will probably produce him about 9 per cent upon the expenditure. He suggests to the Peabody trustees, in almost as many words, that they should go and do likewise. He adopts in some respect our suggestion as to the leasing of ground to builders upon covenants to erect houses only of a class suitable for labourers, but he goes somewhat farther in recommending that these leases should run in perpetuity, and that the ground should be known as the "poor man's site." The granting of perpetual leases, even if legally practicable, would be otherwise attended with difficulty, and would certainly result in the conferring of the major portion of the benefits of the fund upon those for whom it was never intended. As to the proposal of the "poor man's site" as a name, we object in the first place, to calling a man poor because he only earns and can live upon a certain number of shillings per week. A mechanic, with a weekly wage of thirty shillings, paying his way, and enjoying his hot dinner every Sunday, is, to our minds, a far more wealthy personage than many a miserable "genie" pauper living in a suburban two-story villa, and dreading every hour the terrible announcement which will sooner or later inevitably tell of the transformation of the butcher, the baker, or the greengrocer from the most subservient of tradesmen to the most remorseless of duns. Besides, there is much in a name, after all; and we are not without some recollection of editions of popular works spoiled for the more refined classes who might otherwise have found most pleasure in them by the impertinent addition of "people's edition" on the titlepage, to the annoyance of many, the loss of publishers, and the benefit of nobody.

And this brings us to the proposition which we at starting attempted to indicate. It would be ungenerous, perhaps, to point on the one hand to a mouldering heap of treasure and cry "behold philanthropy!" and on the other to a collector receiving his weekly rents of comfortable and well-appointed cottages from smiling tenants lately the denizens of reeking pesthouses upon the same spot, and cry "This is business!" But it would be ungenerous only in laying at the door of a generous benefactor of his race the shortcomings of those who, perhaps, had the affair been their own, would only have needed to exercise the sagacity, the foresight, and the energy of Mr. Alderman Waterlow to benefit their own purses while conferring incalculable advantages upon their poorer neighbours.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

LISBURN.—A petition against the election of Mr. Barbour, as member of Parliament for Lisburn, has been forwarded to the House of Commons. The petition prays that the election may be declared null and void, alleging that it was carried by bribery, corruption, and treating.

NORTH LANSHIRE.—Lord Harrington having accepted the office of one of the Lords of the Admiralty, his seat for North Lancashire becomes vacant. His Lordship offers himself for re-election in an address in which he says:—"While I have had a seat in the House of Commons I have given a general support to her Majesty's Government, whose policy, both domestic and foreign, has, I believe, deserved and obtained your approval, and that of the country. I trust, therefore, that in accepting office, I shall not lose any portion of the confidence which you have hitherto placed in me. I deeply regret to find, after a somewhat long absence from home, that the distress in the manufacturing districts has assumed even larger proportions than was anticipated. The liberality of Lancashire and of the country generally has done much to mitigate the sufferings of the people; and their conduct under these sufferings has been such as to excite universal sympathy. I cordially assisted last Session in the promotion of measures for the mitigation of the distress; and I shall continue, if you do me the honour to re-elect me, to give my best attention to any proposal which may be brought forward having for its object the alleviation of present suffering or the ultimate restoration of prosperity to Lancashire. With reference to the unfortunate condition of the cotton in America, I warmly support the policy of the Government in maintaining the strictest neutrality; while I hope the time may come when they may be able to use their good offices in bringing about a termination of the war. On subjects of domestic policy I have seen no reason to change the opinions which I have formerly expressed, and I believe that they are so well known to you that I need not now enter into an explanation of them."

"GOLDEN BALL."—The death has been notified, at St. Germain, of Mr. Edward Hughes Ball Hughes, who had long resided in that suburban retreat. In the days of George IV., Ball Hughes, or "Golden Ball," as he was called, was one of the leading dandies of the era; he immediately followed that of Beau Brummell. Ball Hughes figured in the best society of London, amongst whom his fortune and his talents were a source of no little welcome. One evening, at the Harrow Opera, the carriage was disappointed at the non-appearance of the celebrated dancer of the day, Mlle. Mercadotti, who had unexpectedly become the wife of Ball Hughes. They departed for the Continent, and from that time the Golden Ball was heard of no more in the circles of fashion in London.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES has been obliged to be signified to the High Bailiff of Southwark the gratification he experienced in receiving an address from that borough.

THE EARL OF DERBY, who has been suffering from an attack of indisposition, is now so far recovered as to be able to leave his room; but it is doubtful whether he will be able to resume his duties in Parliament till after Easter.

HIS MAJESTY'S SCREW STEAM-CORVETTE RACON, Captain Count Gleichen, is ordered to proceed without delay to Malta, for the purpose of bringing home his Royal Highness Prince Alfred.

HIS MAJESTY THE QUEEN has forwarded her usual annual contribution of £50 to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES has been obliged to be written to the High Bailiff of Southwark expressive of her gratitude for the reception given her by the inhabitants of that borough on Sunday, the 7th inst.

COLONEL WILSON PATTER, it is said, is about to be raised to the Peerage by the title of Lord Wilmot.

COLONEL LAKE and DR. CLEMMENS have taken steps for the introduction of the culture of the guano-yielding cinchona into the hill ranges of the Punjab.

GENERAL DEMBINSKI has published a letter declaring that he holds any man to be an enemy to Poland who seeks to cede Austria the least manliness on account of Hungary.

THE SHOP OF MR. THOMAS MYERS, watchmaker and jeweller, Sheffield, has been robbed of property valued at £300.

ADDRESSES TO THE QUEEN and the Prince and Princess of Wales were unanimously agreed to at a special meeting of the Liverpool Town Council on Saturday last.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT has refused to allow the Democratic party of Madrid to hold a public meeting in favour of Poland.

ADDRESSES OF CONGRATULATION have been adopted by the London Court of Common Council to the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales on occasion of the late Royal marriage.

MISS SLIDELL, daughter of the Confederate Commissioner, was riding the other day in the Bois de Boulogne, when she was thrown from her horse and suffered a fracture of the skull. She is recovering.

THE NIAGARA RIVER, at its junction with Lake Ontario, has been bridged with wire. Similar formations took place in 1812 and 1845.

DURING THE WEDDINGS AT HASTINGS, on occasion of the Royal marriage, a man named Stace threw himself into a bonfire, and was so severely burned that he died shortly afterwards.

LAST WEEK a young lady named Crawford was seriously injured by the falling of a pile, which was being driven into a hole, in Westminster-street, Dublin.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS has, it is said, the Rensell forgery case in hand for a serial work.

THE WILL OF MR. RICHARD GREEN, the eminent shipowner, of Blackwall, and of Walmley, Kent, has just been proved in the London Court under £350,000 personality. He has bequeathed £25,000 to various charitable institutions.

THE CELEBRATED ESTATE OF CHATEAU-MARGAUX, the property of M. Agnado, has just been purchased for 2,500,000, by M. Cahuzac, a merchant of Paris. The domain was bought by M. Agnado, in 1843, for 1,250,000.

THE PROSECUTORS IN THE CASE OF PROFESSOR JOWETT have failed to lodge their appeal against the decision of the Assessor, that the Court before which the case came had no jurisdiction; and the cause has therefore dropped.

AUSTRIA HAS, it is said, sent reinforcements to her garrisons on the frontiers of Russian Poland, in order to satisfy the reiterated applications of the Czar's Government. The mission of these troops will be to closely watch the frontier, so as to prevent too frequent communications between the insurgents and the Poles of Galicia.

THE HANDSOME BRONZE STATUE erected by the citizens of London to commemorate the public services of the late Sir Robert A. Ferguson, M.P., was inaugurated last week, in the presence of a large concourse of the inhabitants. The Bishop of Derry officiated.

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT ATHENS has elected a committee to discuss the question of the succession to the throne of Greece with the Minister of the Interior. In Sparta and other places demonstrations in favour of the ex-King Otto have taken place.

IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1861-2 there were employed in the War Department manufacturers 12,118 civils, foremen, artificers, and labourers; and in 1862-3, 11,115. It is proposed to employ only 7929 in the year 1863-4. The 3627 persons employed in the gun-factories in the current year 1862-3 are to be reduced to 1689.

IRITATION AMONGST THE OPERATIVES IN LANCASHIRE is becoming very strong. Their complaints refer to the behaviour of the Relief Committee; the administration of the poor law; the enormous reduction of wages; and, lastly, to the fact that the workmen are sinking more and more deeply into the power of his employer by running into debt for rent.

ON SATURDAY, MRS. JESSIE BLACK, wife of Captain Black and daughter of a Leicester physician of high standing, was brought up at the House of Correction, Preston, on the charge of stealing a quantity of jewellery from Fulwood Barracks, the property of Captain Blisset and Mrs. Crofton, widow of the late Colonel Crofton, who was murdered, with another officer, in the barrack-yard in September, 1861.

THE STEEPLE OF A NEW CHURCH BUILDING at EAST SHILLEN fell with a tremendous crash on Sunday morning. The work had been raised to a height of ninety feet, so that the alarm is still occasioned may be imagined. Luckily no one was near enough to be hurt, but the ruins which fell in and around the chancel tore down and broke a great deal of the scaffolding.

AT THE VILLAGE OF HUCKNALL, in Nottingham, on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales, a committee of working men solicited subscriptions amongst the tradesmen, and obtained sufficient to purchase combustible materials to light a huge fire on the village green, at which they roasted about three hundred red herrings, which, along with a proportionate quantity of cooked potatoes, were distributed to the poor of the place.

THE DEATH OF LADY WESTBURY, wife of the Lord Chancellor, is announced. Her Ladyship had long been in a delicate state of health.

THE SENATES OF THE EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY has resolved to confer upon Lord Palmerston, during his approaching visit, the degree of LL.D.

A WOMAN, name unknown, was drowned on Monday morning, in endeavouring to get on board a steam-boat whilst it was starting from the pier at London Bridge. The body was recovered and conveyed to Guy's Hospital. The following description is given of deceased by the police:—"About thirty-five years of age, 5 ft. 3 in. high, brown cloak, blue merino dress, tuck skirt, three blue and white petticoats, and one flannel."

MR. JOHN GULLY, who at one time was champion of England in the prize-ring, who sat during two or three seasons as M.P. for Penryn, and who has been a notability on the turf for a number of years, has just died. His funeral was attended by the Mayor of Durham and a number of local notabilities.

AT A COUNTY MEETING convened by the High Sheriff of Norfolk on Saturday, in the Shirehall, Norwich, an address of congratulation to the Prince of Wales on his marriage was unanimously agreed upon. The county of Cork has held a similar meeting.

DEATH OF SIR WILLIAM STEVENSON, K.C.B.—This excellent public servant died on Feb. 9, in the island of Mauritius, of which he was Governor. He was by birth and extraction a West Indian. His mother, a Miss James, of the island of Jamaica, was descended from the Colonel William James mentioned in the second volume of the "Annual Register," that for the year 1759, as having died in Jamaica at the patriarchal age of 103. The Colonel James is memorable as having been the first person born of English parents in that island after it had been taken from the Spaniards by the expedition Cromwell sent out in 1655, under Penn and Venables. Again, the mother of this Miss James was a Miss Lawrence, also descended from one of the original and by far the most illustrious settlers in that island—that Henry Lawrence who had been President of Cromwell's Council, and who at the Restoration withdrew from his native country to form for himself a new home where he might hope to remain undisturbed. It is this Lawrence whose memory is embalmed in Milton's sonnet, commencing with the line—

Lawrence, now of virtuous father virtuous son.

The late Sir William Stevenson, thus descended from what may be called the historic families of one of our oldest colonies, commenced life as a barrister. Having been raised to the judicial bench in his native island, he was subsequently promoted by the Duke of Newcastle to the governorship of the British settlements at Mauritius. Before he had served there for the period such appointments are usually held he was promoted to the Government of Mauritius. At Mauritius Sir William's abilities, tact, and devotion to the public service found a more fitting field for their display. He became one of the most popular of our colonial Governors. This was shown by the sensation caused in the island at his death and by the feeling displayed at his funeral. He was carried off, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, by an attack of acute dysentery. Losses of this kind—and we are only too frequently called upon to record them—form no more than the part of the price which this country has to pay for its widely-extended empire.

CONFEDERATE WAR VESSELS.—The steamer *Satan*, built at Gibraltar, has been thoroughly repaired at the *Enterprise* Dock, and is now ready for sea. The screw-steamer *Southerner*, intended for the Confederate service, was launched last week at Stockton. The gun-boat built by W. C. Miller and Sons, at Liverpool, for the Confederates, was also launched last week.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

YOUR readers have probably seen a paragraph in the papers announcing that a certain Mr. Samuel Tillet was presented at Court by mistake, and that his name had been erased from the list sent to the *Gazette*. I have learned something of this adventurous person's history, and will just give you a sketch thereof. Mr. Samuel Tillet was originally a bluestock boy at Colchester. After he left school he got a place in a lawyer's family. In process of time, being sharp and clever, he was promoted to the office, had his articles given him, and gained a knowledge of the profession. In due time he started on his "own hook" at Colchester, and, had he been as honest as he was clever, he might have done well. Indeed, he did do well for a time, but after some years he suddenly came to grief—was, in short, tried for very extensive frauds in the way of disposing of deeds and securities, convicted, and sentenced to a long term of imprisonment. After he came out, it appears, however, he was neither daunted nor ashamed. His first appearance above water was at the House of Lords when her Majesty opened Parliament. There he was seen in evening dress, handing in the peerages and other notable ladies. How he got there nobody knows to this day. The police thought, of course, that he was some Court or Parliamentary official. His next appearance in public was at the opening of the Great Exhibition. He had put his name down as a guarantor, although he could not have had a sovereign of his own; and thus he gained the entrée, and appeared in the procession. But the celebration of his audacity was his presentation at Court. A great Duke—or rather the immediate descendant of a great Duke—was his friend. But how he got into his Grace's society, and how he bamboozled his Grace, I have no means of knowing. Since the days of the boy Jones there has been no instance of such impudence as this.

Of all the adventures on the illumination night which I have heard of, the following is the most ridiculous:—A good Paterfamilias, living somewhere south of London, hired an omnibus, into and on to which he packed his family and certain friends, invited. At six o'clock p.m. the omnibus started for London Bridge, whence it was to proceed by the Mansion House to the West-end, and, after navigating all the streets in which notable illuminations were to be seen, to turn homewards over Westminster Bridge. This was the route arranged. Well, it got within a quarter of a mile of London Bridge, and there it stuck fast. After some hour it had to be shunted out of the line. At five a.m. it was stranded in Berners-street, and, then, after one further delay, it got itself extricated, and with its worried and disconsolate passengers arrived at the place from which it had started about twelve hours before, and, indeed, and, indeed, as far as the passengers were concerned, having seen no other illumination than those which a few lanterns glimmers exhibited.

The petition against Mr. Layson Gower, M.P. for Redgate, is withdrawn, upon condition that Mr. Layson Gower shall not appear or undertake any opposition to Mr. Arthur Wilson at the next election. This arrangement seems to show that the means taken to defeat Mr. Wilson would not bear the scrutiny of a committee.

It is, I believe, settled that Sir Richard Brodley is to resign his office of Accountant-General of the Navy, and to be appointed a Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital. Sir Richard's health has shown signs of failure of late. Who is to be his successor has not been decided yet; perhaps it is not settled. Obviously the Deputy Accountant-General, Mr. Beech, ought to succeed. The salary of the place is £1200, with allowance of £300 a year for a house.

Mr. Samuel Whitbread's health is mending, but it has been thought advisable that he should retire from his post of Lord of the Admiralty. His son, the Marquis of Hartington, eldest son of the Duke of Devonshire, succeeds. This appointment necessitates an election for North Lancashire. The Conservatives threaten an opposition, in revenge for the Marquis's motion of want of confidence in the Derby Government in 1859.

The *Money Market Review* professes to be a weekly record of trade and finance, as well as of "railway, banking, insurance, mining, steam, and other public companies." I am unable to check its information on the first subjects; but I have caught it tripping so beautifully on a point which, I suppose, comes under the head of "other public companies," that I should be loath to accept its guidance on anything connected with either stocks or shares. In the last number of this voracious periodical the third leading article is headed "The Times;" and, after some feeble jocularities concerning the correctness and absurdity of the leading journal, the following astounding assertion is calmly made. I copy it verbatim, italics included:—

The *Times* has purchased the *Daily Telegraph*. We make the communication, evidently, because a secret, or, at least, a secret, has been taken during the negotiation to keep the transaction a profound secret, and for that, and other potent reasons, the *Telegraph* is still to continue in its old shop, under the same management, and to be served by the same staff.

Need I say that this confidential communication is pure fiction from beginning to end. How the writer discovered the man's nest, was were the precise motives which led to its publication, it is difficult even to guess. I incline to the opinion that—unless, indeed, the *Money Market Review* be written at Colney Hatch and edited in a padded room—some interested person has foisted upon it a carefully set-up hoax.

While on the subject of the *Times*, let me note a little bit of speculation with which its readers have been indulged during the past week. A correspondent complained on Monday that the charges of management for the department of Woods and Forests is 80 per cent, and his letter was followed up by a letter on the following day, in which it was said, "as for the trees, they are scarcely worth a passing word, for it is notorious that the many years the Royal forests and woodlands have not produced a stick worthy of admission into Her Majesty's dockyards." I will add with the points *seriatim*. First, then, as to the cost of 80 per cent for management. The error here is, that the forests and woodlands should be regarded as sources of revenue at all. These are really a branch of expenditure, the outlay on which should be debited to the Navy Estimates. In France a vote is passed for the expense of raising wood for ships of war with the same unquestioned regularity as for clothing and feeding the army. The greater part of our own Crown lands were planted with oaks between the years 1805 and 1815, and cannot be remunerative until a century later. The strongest injunctions were laid upon the Commissioners of Woods and Forests of that date to let an abundance of "hearts of oak" for the use of the dockyards of the future. The principles of free trade were less understood then than now; Canada as a source of supply was scarcely dreamt of, and the great fear was that the country would be left unprovided with raw material for its wooden walls. The forests were planted accordingly with oak, and in a very healthy and promising condition they are reported to be. But inasmuch as the operation of nature cannot be hurried even for writers in the *Times*, it is not wonderful that they do not produce revenue at present. Meanwhile the operation of thinning and tending, and the preservation, in the case of one of the forests, of common rights on behalf of some thirteen hundred co-proprietors with the Crown of course costs money. But to put down the charges of management at 80 per cent is either disingenuous or ignorant. If we assert that a certain outlay has been made, and is still going on, and that somewhere about the year 1910 the nation will receive it back, with compound interest at the rate of say 2 per cent, we state the case fairly. Whether it was wise forty years ago to plant the Crown lands with oak-trees is another question. The men of that generation acted according to their lights, and we must make the best of the legacy they have left us. At all events, it will not do to throw away the care and management of half a century because gentlemen of an arbitrary turn of mind became impatient, or because depreciation of forest property, comes—probably at the dictation of a well-to-do purchaser—through the columns of the *Times*.

Are you aware that London possesses a Danish church (I don't mean St. Clement-le-Dane, but a church wherein the service is performed in Danish), and that it is situated in Welbeck-square? I don't ever know, or had completely forgotten the fact, until I heard that Prince Christian of Denmark, Princess Louise, and other relatives of the Princess of Wales attended service there last Sunday, accompanied by their suite. When the King of Italy paid his visit to the Queen we were reminded, in like manner, that a certain dingy, insolent, theatre-looking edifice in Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields

is the Sardinian chapel; and, after it was announced that Victor Emmanuel had been there, it became the fashion for a few subsequent Sundays. In like manner, I suppose, Welbeck-square will be beset by scores of worshippers who never knew of its existence until now; and I foresee that the Danish hymns sung last Sunday—"I Gud jeg vil mig glæde," and "Dybt Kjøbd glæde"—will be speedily popularised by the vendors of sacred music.

In the collection of sketches by Mr. George Cruikshank now exhibiting, is one called "London in 1851," originally intended as an illustration to Mr. Henry Mayhew's serial on the Exhibition of 1851. This engraving is an accurate picture of the state of the City streets on the day of the arrival of the Princess of Wales. There are the banners stretching from one side of the road to the other, the crowded balconies, the blocked-up windows, the congratulatory placards, the impeded carriages, the mob of heads packed so closely that they could be walked upon with ease, and the general air of dense confusion which were the characteristics of the great thoroughfare east of Temple Bar. The joke of this is that it presents Mr. George Cruikshank to us in the light of a prophet, for his drawing, though never intended for more than a humorous exaggeration of the crowding likely to take place on May 1, 1851, becomes a faithful record of what actually occurred on March 7, 1863. Since the late Mr. Albert Smith's skit on the æsthetic pretensions of the Crystal Palace directors, and its realisation when negro singers and sensation mountebanks were hired to "tumble" in that educational retreat, I have seen nothing funnier than the coincidence I am describing. Any one who saw Fleet-street or Cheap-side on the 7th would do well to refresh their memories by referring to Mr. Cruikshank's fancy sketch of Piccadilly. Apropos of the illuminations three days later, there was one device so characteristic and practical that I am only surprised it escaped comment from the daily press. You remember *Mme. Rachel*, the lady who enameled faces, sues husbands, and figures from time to time in the Bankruptcy Court. Well, she has written, or had written for her, a brochure entitled "Beautiful for Ever!" in which her art is, I presume, put off the style of Professor Holloway or Messrs. Moses and Son. On the 10th inst. the Prince of Wales's feathers were duly put up outside her establishment, with these touching words by way of motto:—"May they be happy together and beautiful for ever, is the prayer of *Mme. Rachel*!" Pretty, isn't it? The regency which incorporated a trade puff into a wish savouring of the "Arabian Nights" rises into genius; and, as I carefully avoid naming the fair Israelite's address, this notice of her advertising talent enables you to laugh with me at the joke, without any fear on my part that I have, by ventilating her name, run the risk of adding to the number of her clients.

Every one should see Mr. Gheun's photographs of the Royal family, with the chalk drawings enlarged from them. They are on view in the first floor of the French Gallery.

Mr. Bartholomew Edwards has gone to Poland, to act as special correspondent of the events now in progress for the *Times*.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

"AURORA FLOYD" AT THE PRINCESS'S.

That crowds fill the Princess's Theatre is a great tribute to Miss Braddon's popularity, for assuredly neither the adaptation of her novel nor the manner in which it is acted are sufficient to attract a large audience. In Mr. Cheltenham's stage arrangement the powerful story of "Aurora Floyd" is but lamely and impotently shadowed forth, losing half its interest and all its graphic, life-like fidelity; and this, not so much owing to the fault of the adapter as to the inadaptability of the novel itself for dramatic representation. Certain critics of the weekly press, without the smallest knowledge of stage requirements, in their notices of the novel pronounced it to be eminently dramatic, and this (together with the fact now patent, that the author was at one time one of the theatrical profession, and may have written with a view to stage representation) has probably hampered its production at more than one theatre. But the fact is that the book is by no means fitted for the theatrical adapter, whose scissors excise what are by far the most powerful passages, while his paste-pot glues together incongruous scenes and brings irrelevant people into hazy juxtaposition. At the end of one act we leave Aurora refusing Talbot Bulstrode's offer without any assigned reason, and at the beginning of the next we find her the wife of John Mellich, the whole story of the jockey's supposed death, on which the incident turns, being omitted! Indeed, all the salient features of the novel, all its best bits of concentrated interest or clever life-portraiture, are left out, and Miss Braddon must be astonished at the unwholesome skeleton which is now on exhibition to the public as her work.

If, however, the adapter has failed in embodying the author's notion, what can we say for the actors, who, with very few exceptions, are more unlike the characters in the book than, without seeing them, can be conceived. Miss Sedgwick, who plays Aurora, is not only the exact converse of Miss Braddon's heroine in personal appearance (the one being stout, fair and light-haired, the other tall, queenly, with flashing eyes, olive complexion, and blue-black hair), but she does not represent one single one of those peculiar characteristics on which Miss Braddon so frequently enlarges. Aurora's wild access of rage is by Miss Sedgwick turned into well-repressed malice, finding occasional vent in icy cynicism; in fact, a wild, untutored, headstrong, passionate, irrepressible, daring girl is represented by the most conventionally stagey actress on the boards in her most stagey manner. John Mellich, the big, broad-shouldered, burly Yorkshire squire, with his heavy step, his great, jovial voice, and his hearty laugh, is represented by Mr. Herman Vezin, a conscientious and good actor of juvenile tragedy, but utterly unfitted, physically, for this part. Of the gentleman who plays Bulstrode I prefer to say nothing, and Mrs. Simpson makes Mrs. Powell a very unpleasant virago, instead of the winning *dame de compagnie*. Robert Roxby and Mr. Belmore are the only two who have apparently done justice to the book; the first gives a capital rendering of the turf-blackguard Colonel, and Mr. Belmore's acting as "the Squire" is one of the most studied and elaborate bits of character I have ever seen. The piece is well put on a stage.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES AND THE CHILDREN OF WINDSOR.—A description having been raised among the children of Windsor for the purchase of a present to the Princess of Wales, a very handsome Bible and Prayer-book were purchased and forwarded to the Hon. Mrs. Bruce for presentation to the Princess. They were bound in ivory, with gilt and curioque ornaments. In reply to the Vicar, Mrs. Bruce says that she is desired by the Princess of Wales to ask him to convey to the children her Royal Highness's thanks for the present, which her Royal Highness will always keep in remembrance of them and of the brightest days of her life.

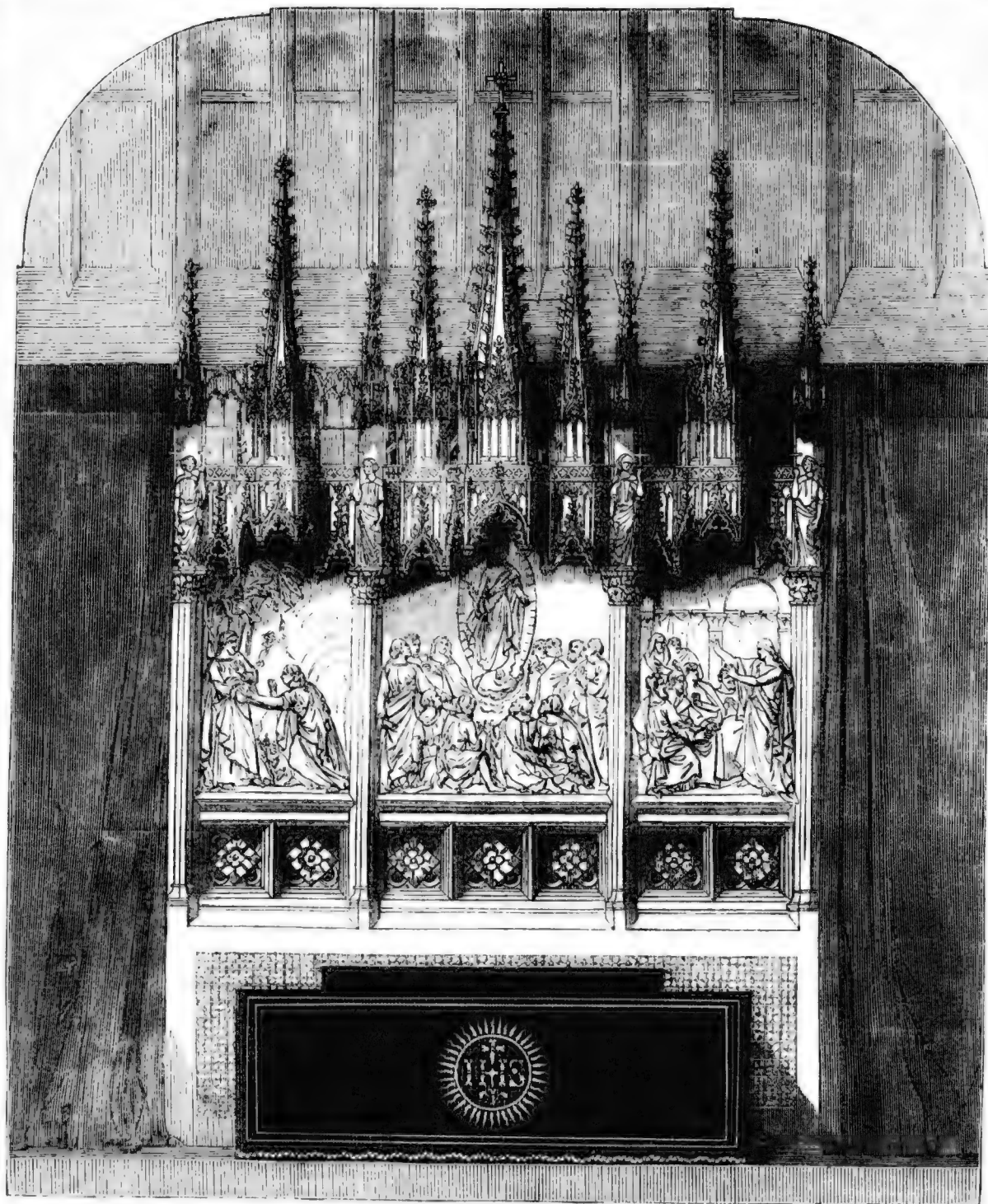
METROPOLITAN AND SUBURBAN RAILWAYS.

We recently directed attention to the ravages the railway companies proposed to make in London, and pointed out how the majority of the extensions and junctions owed their origin, not to benevolent plans for the convenience of the public, but either to the mischievous rivalries of the companies themselves or to the reckless energy of contractors, engineers, or Parliamentary solicitors, the most lucrative portion of whose business often consists in getting up these schemes. Since then the House of Commons has, on its second reading, thrown out a bill for bringing a railway from the Great Northern in a cutting to the top of Regent-street, and it appears more than probable that the Great Eastern station will either remain where it is or, when it does spring into the metropolis, must select some other spot than Finsbury-square in which to alight. So far, therefore, so good. But, in the meantime, we would invite attention to the fact that it is by no means the metropolitan extensions only which require looking after, and that some bills which bear the most harmless of suburban titles are likely, if passed, to do a lasting injury to the metropolis itself. Such are the bills promoted by the London and Brighton Company, and the London, Cnatham, and Dover Company, both of whom actually propose to take their lines through Greenwich Park, the most ancient, and by far the most beautiful, of all the parks round London. The promoters of these schemes say that they intend to studiously avoid injuring the park, and only mean to "take the line through the park by a tunnel about half a mile long." This tunnel, however, must be constructed, we believe, on what engineers call the "cut and cover" system; that is to say, a broad and deep cutting is first made,

the tunnel then built, and the earth filled in again. A disfigurement of this kind for some twelve months or so while the works are progressing ought in itself to be a sufficient reason for the rejection of the bill; but this will not be the least of the evil, for the formation of any tunnel through the park will drain the moisture from the trees and kill all the noble elms and chestnuts in its neighbourhood. In the matter of railway extension the Legislature has taken special care of the north side of the metropolis, while the south side has been left to the mercy of every angry company or hungry projector. It is most earnestly to be hoped that they will not permit this last act of desecration, and that this old, historic playground of the south of London will be left in its natural beauty. It required a great effort, some years ago, to prevent the present Woolwich line from doing what two now wish to do, and the public will, indeed, have passed from King Log to King Stork if all their exertions to keep one railway from touching the park end in two rivals and antagonists passing through its centre. Members of both Houses have struggled to prevent the violation of St. Pancras Road, and to preserve the dusty rurality of Finsbury-square. Is there none who will say a word for Greenwich Park and the thousands who daily derive pleasure in the contemplation of its quiet beauties?

THE REREDOS IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR.

ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL underwent considerable alterations previous to the recent interesting ceremony. Part of these changes was complete, while others are still in progress. The fine memorial window to the late Prince Consort has already been described. A new reredos has also been erected at the altar, which, however, is as yet in an unfinished state, the portion at present undertaken being, as far as relates to its width, a continuation to the floor of the central division of the window above. We have engraved a view of it as it appears. Its principal features, it will be seen, are three niches, containing subjects in alto-relievo. The central niche, which agrees in width with the three middle lights of the window, contains a relief of the "Ascension;" and the other two (agreeing each in width with two lights of the window), contain respectively representations of the *noli me tangere*, and of our Lord appearing to his disciples. The remaining four niches are not as yet undertaken. The reredos is executed in alabaster; and the details are of great richness; agreeing in character with the architecture of the chapel. The portion at present erected is not yet quite perfect, the plaster models only of the two smaller reliefs being at present erected; and the central relief, though executed in alabaster, not being quite complete. The whole has been carried out



THE NEW REREDOS IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR.

by Mr. J. Birnie Philip, under the direction of Mr. Scott. Above the table mosaics are introduced; and herafter gilding will be used to heighten the effect. The groups are very good. In the canopy-work the natural markings in the alabaster interfere considerably with the mouldings and carvings, and serve to confirm an opinion we have long entertained, that alabaster of this kind is not a good material for such works."

THE DANISH ODE. PRESENTED TO PRINCESS ALEXANDRA ON HER LANDING.

THE Danes resident in London having manifested their desire to meet Princess Alexandra immediately on her landing on English soil, to give her a hearty welcome, the Mayor of Gravesend met their wishes in the most obliging manner, and placed a large number of seats nearest the pier at their disposal, where a tent, splendidly decorated with English and Danish colours, was erected, and over which was seen the Royal arms of Denmark, supported by the old Dannebrog. A large number of ladies and gentlemen filled the tent, the brilliant toilets of the former consisting chiefly of the national red and white, and all wearing a Coventry ribbon rosette of the same colours, with the silver cross of the Dannebrog in the centre, bearing the inscription, "In remembrance of the 7th of March, 1863," which had been specially designed for the occasion by Mr. Barkentin, a Danish artist, resident in London, the same gentleman who has designed and executed the splendid silver vase which the Danes are about to present to the Princess as a wedding gift. While the Royal salutes were being fired, and the pretty girls of England strewed the path with flowers, the Princess entered the carriage, with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and her illustrious parents, Prince Christian and Princess Louise

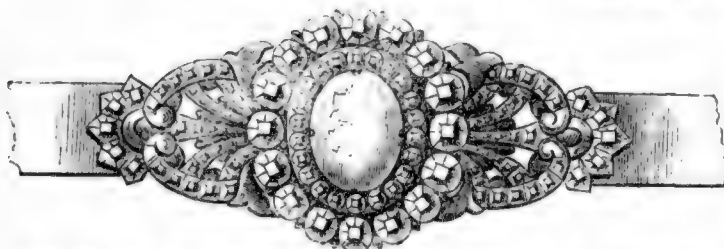
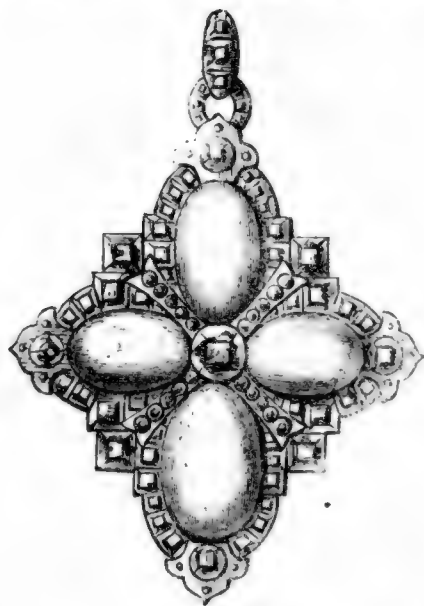
of Denmark. At the Danish stand the carriage halted, and a poetical address, handsomely bound in crimson velvet, with the Danish cross on the cover, was presented to the Princess by a deputation of Danish ladies, consisting of Mrs. Simonsen, Mrs. Westenholtz, Mrs. Delcomyn, and Mrs. Hihme, while the Royal party were most heartily and enthusiastically cheered by lusty Danish hurrahs, which, by-the-way, are marked by the emphasis being placed both on the first and second syllables. Prince Christian of Denmark handed the address to the Princess, and thanking the deputation most graciously, the Royal party continued their triumphal passage through the town.

Over the cross upon the cover of the address is a crown, and under a wreath of oak and beech trees, emblematic of England and Denmark. On each corner is a Runic button elaborately chased, which serves as a protection to the cross, &c. The poem is written on vellum, and richly illuminated. Subjoined is the poem, of which, perhaps, some of our readers may like to try their hands at a translation:—

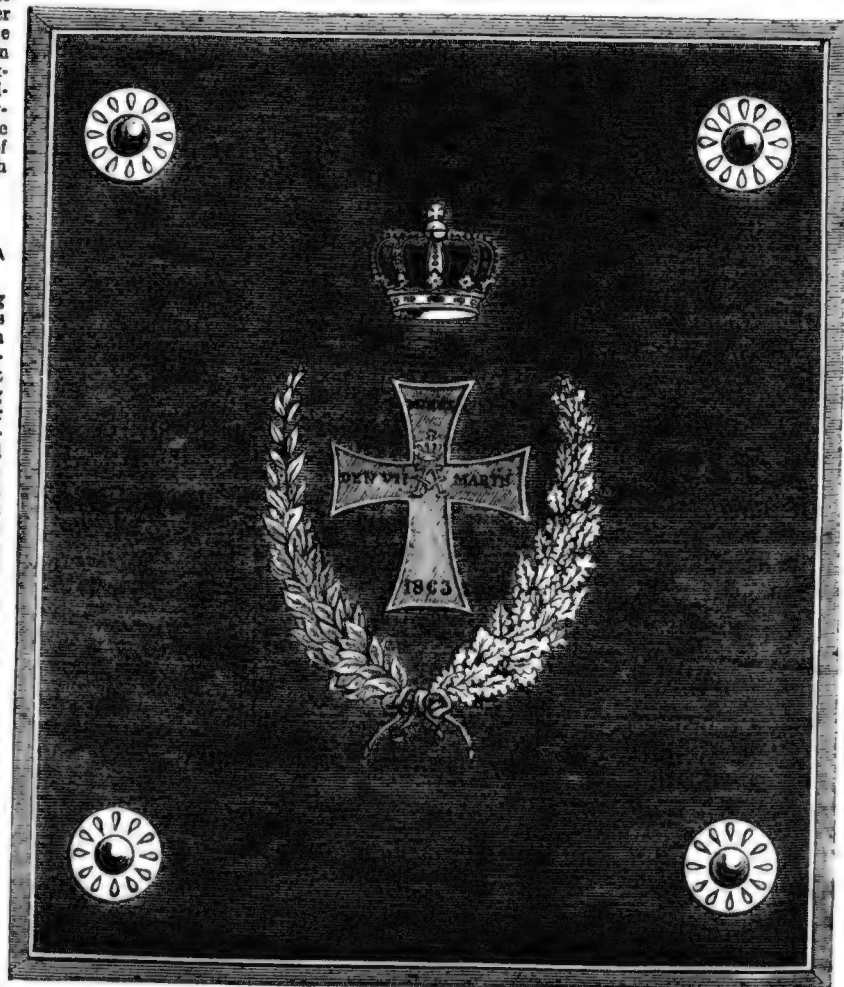
I.
Hil Dig, Prindsesse, der fra
Danmark kommer
Til Bretlands Kyst med Bæd-
skab om Skicrsommer!
Hil Dig, der funkler skøn i
Vintrens Hierte
Som Vaarens unge Kierle

II.
Deilige Vaarsol!
Du Som den Straalelige Bane
sik
At skimme for det mørktiste
blandt Riger,
Før til Din Glandsog Herlighed
Du stiger—
O—stands et Øieblik;
Vort andet Fædreland os
England blev,
Det gav os Armens Fred og
Borgerbrev,
Men Danmark er vor første
sidste Tanke
Hvad Delligst Danmark eier
som et Lyn
Slog ned for Tanken ved det
Skjønheds Syn,
Der trage vore Hjerter til at
banke,

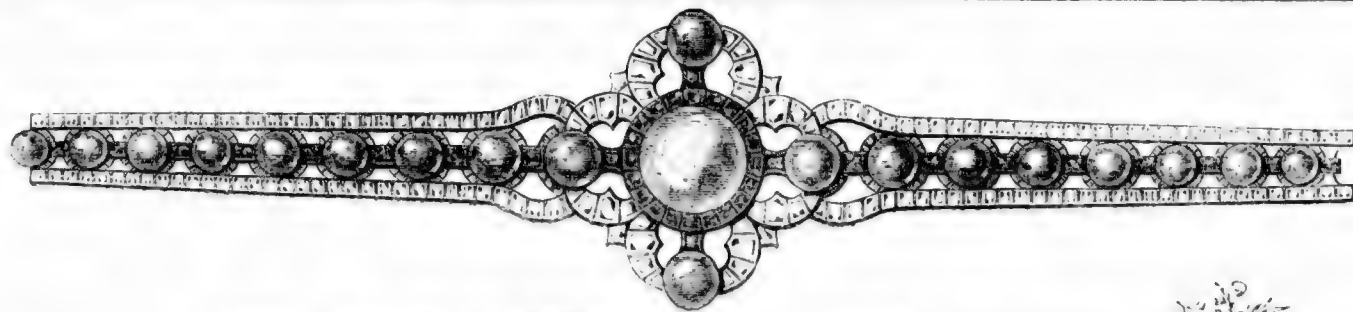
III.
Prindsesse! Skiondt i England
Du har hienne
Skiondt her Du sønget blev
at Kierlighed,
Til dette Mødes danske Stem-
nøj med,
Dit dans ke Fædreland Du
aldri glemme!



DIAMOND AND OPAL CROSS AND BRACELET PRESENTED TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA BY THE QUEEN



DESIGN ON THE COVER OF THE COPY OF THE DANISH ODE PRESENTED BY MRS. SIMONSEN, ON BEHALF OF THE DANISH RESIDENTS, TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA ON HER LANDING AT GRAVESEND.



DIAMOND AND OPAL BRACELET PRESENTED TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA
BY THE LADIES OF MANCHESTER.

PRESENTS TO THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

FROM THE LADIES OF MANCHESTER.

The ladies of Manchester have presented to the Princess of Wales, on the occasion of her marriage, a magnificent opal bracelet, set with emeralds and diamonds. The bracelet consists of twenty large opals, which encircle the wrist, the centre stone being very large and rare, surrounded by four smaller, and the whole being studded with diamonds

whole being put into a base lined with a delicate, pale, blue-coloured velvet, of which material the outside of the case is covered, having on the top a gold plate bearing the initial "A.," surmounted with the crown of the Princess. The cross measures about 2½ inches in length. These jewels were supplied by Mr. Joseph, Mayor of Liverpool.

FROM THE LADIES OF
BRISTOL.

The ladies of Bristol and Clifton, meeting under the presidency of the Mayress, Mrs. Hare, have made a handsome subscription to make a present to the Princess of Wales, and have selected, from among a variety of costly ornaments, a suite of diamonds and pearls, including a fastening for the back hair, made in accordance with the present fashion; a brooch, representing a true-lover's knot; and a pair of earrings. The jewellery will all be inclosed in a superb oval casket of ivory, richly mounted in gold, and having emblazoned upon it the arms of England and of Denmark, as also of the city of Bristol. The Prince of Wales's plume and motto will adorn each side of the casket, and the rose, shamrock, and thistle will be traced in gold around its base. The offering will be accompanied with a handsomely-bound book, in which an address to the Princess of Wales will be illuminated. The entire cost of the present will be £700, and there is no doubt that the full amount will be subscribed.

ALGERIAN ONYX INKSTAND.

PRESENTED TO H.R.H. THE
PRINCE OF WALES BY
LIEUT.-COL. CAVENDISH.

The Inkstand of which we here give an illustration was presented to his Royal Highness, on the occasion of his marriage, by Lieut.-Colonel Cavendish. It is composed of Algerian onyx. This beautiful material has recently been re-discovered (having been lost for upwards of twelve centuries) in the Filfila quarries of the province of Oran (called by the Arabs the "Marble Country"), in Algeria. It is translucent, and is intersected by numerous varie-

gated veins of every conceivable tint, resembling in appearance the rich Oriental agates. The block from which the plateau and vases of his Royal Highness's inkstand has been carved is a most charming specimen, being naturally most richly decorated with orange, yellow, and pink veins. The beautifully-chased ornamental handles, fluted setting and pedestals form most appropriate contrasts to the onyx. Round the border a novel effect has



NECKLACE AND CROSS OF PEARLS AND DIAMONDS PRESENTED TO HER ROYAL
HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA BY THE LADIES OF LIVERPOOL.

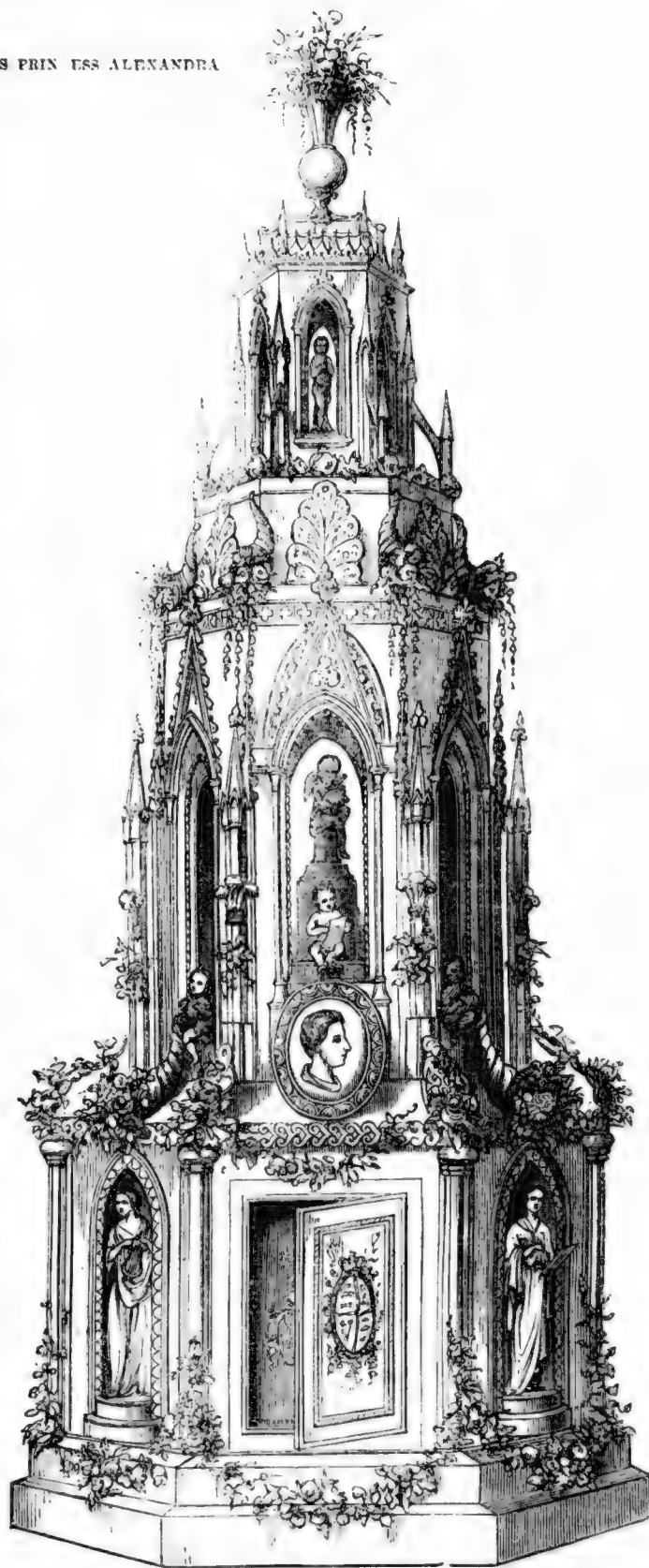
and emeralds. The band consists of fifteen opals and diamonds. The value of the bracelet is upwards of £500, and was manufactured by Messrs. Hunt and Roekell. The opals have a superstition which attaches a peculiar significance to every gem. The opal, they say, preserves its wearer from all diseases of the heart; the diamond denotes purity and innocence; while the emerald ensures continuous love. The Manchester gift to the Princess of Wales is in its aspect expressive, as well as costly and beautiful. The Princess wore this bracelet at the altar.

FROM THE LADIES OF
LIVERPOOL.

The ladies of Liverpool have given her Royal Highness a beautiful necklace and cross. The cross is made with eleven large English-cut Golconda diamonds of the purest water, all of an equal size in depth and spread of surface. Being cut with the true mathematical principle of brilliants, they have a rich play of colour, unlike most of the diamonds which are cut in Holland, and are worthy a place amongst the most precious of the State jewels. At the top of the cross is a loop formed of three diamonds, to which is attached a single row of beautiful pearls, forming the necklace, which fastens by a snap having a single diamond, the



ONYX INKSTAND PRESENTED TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL CAVENDISH.



THE ROYAL WEDDING-CAKE.

been produced by an entirely new process of enamelling in colours the Prince's monogram, motto, garter, and the ostrich plume and crown, the colours being those of England—viz., red, white, and blue.

It was designed and manufactured by Messrs. Howell James, and Co., goldsmiths and jewellers by appointment, 5, 7, 9, Regent-street, who have become the sole representatives in England for the company to whom the Algerian onyx quarries belong.

We hope in a future Number to give an engraving of the beautiful salon which this firm has just completed and fitted up exclusively for the large collection of specimens they have received.

Mr. FALCONER'S play of "Black Dunder," albeit somewhat tainted with anachronisms and violations of geographical probability—such, for instance, as placing the clans near Dunder, which is *not* in the Highlands, but in the *eastern* lowland county of Forfar, and then suddenly transferring the said clans to Glencoe, if we remember rightly, in the *west* Highlands—still holds its place at Drury Lane, and seems to be pretty successful in pleasing the audiences who attend the house. Of course, these audiences, not being Scotchmen, could not know of or care about the little blemishes referred to above, but do feel that the piece was too long, and made Mr. Falconer understand that a judicious curtailment would conduce both to the pleasure of the spectators and the credit of the author. Accordingly, the piece has been shortened, and therefore improved; but the scene of the gathering of the clans, depicted in our *Illustration*, as it was one of the most effective in the drama, has of course been retained.



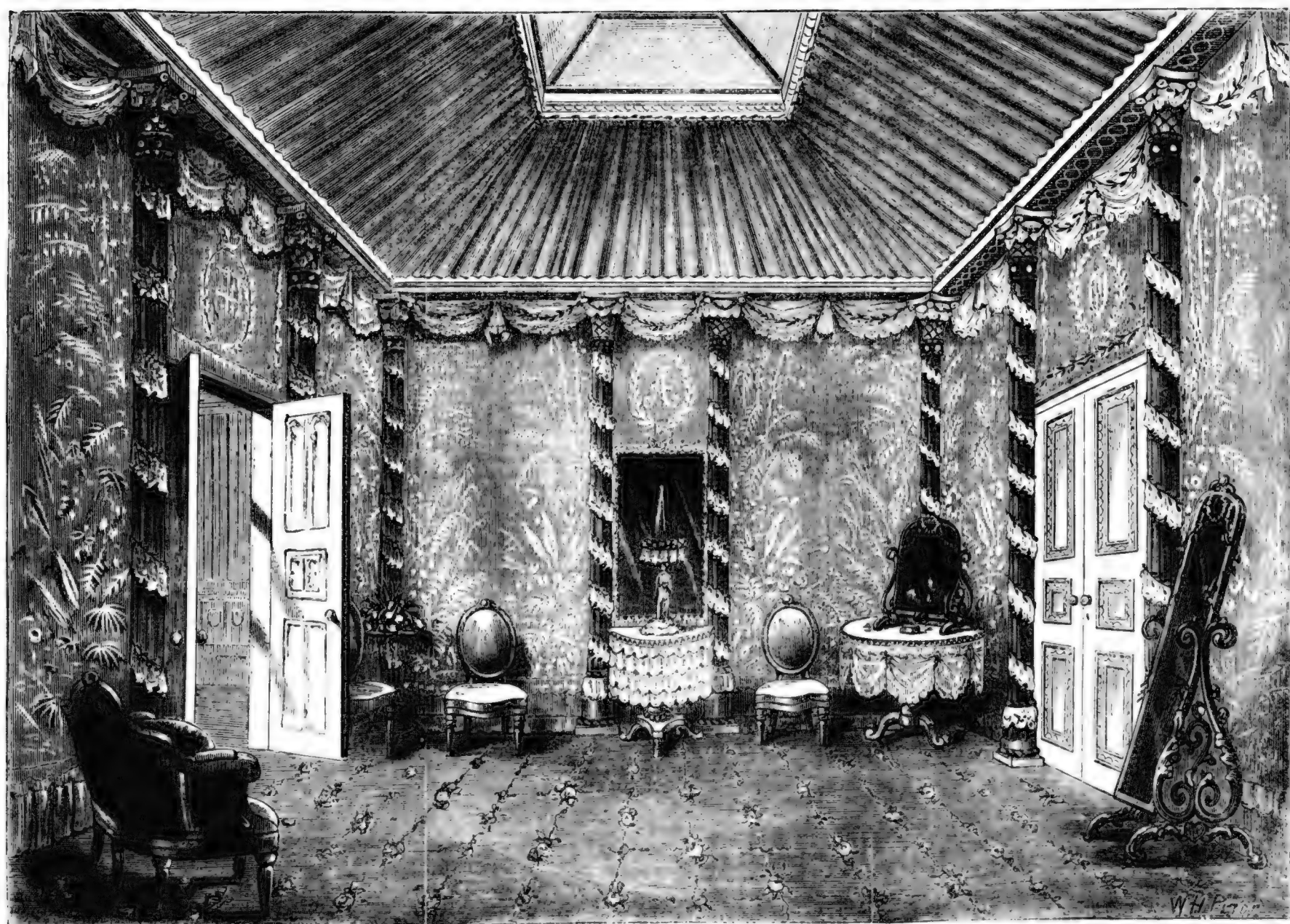
RECEPTION OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA.—ARRIVAL OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS AT THE PADDINGTON STATION.



GATHERING OF THE CLANS.—SCENE FROM THE NEW MELODRAMA "BONNIE DUNDEE," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.



THE PROCESSION OF THE BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM PASSING THROUGH THE GREAT HALL ADJOINING ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL.



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA'S DRESSING-ROOM, ADJOINING ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR.

The heights, the gardens beneath, and the fine boulevard of Prince's-street are all embraced in one glance, and the view is then eastwards, not only to the Calton-hill but to the picturesque hills of Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crags. The castle was magnificently lit up; its embayures and parapets being thickly planted with pædelle, which also marked the outlines of the rocks and the paths of the sloping gardens below. The Scott Monument, in the centre of the scene, was brilliantly and effectively traced in gas; the whole back of the old town was lit with candles, exhibited in many ingenious ornamental arrangements, and this part of the display was superbly crowned by the sparkling illumination of the coronal steeple of St. Giles. The long line of Prince's-street presented a rich and most varied display, the view being terminated on the west by the dome of St. George, brilliantly on lined in lamps, and on the east by Nelson's Monument, Calton-hill, which was lit inside, and its balconies planted with pædelle. Various other houses and public buildings were illuminated, and a large bonfire blazed on Arthur's Seat, and a chapel of fires wreathed Salisbury Crags, from which a splendid display of fireworks, the gift of the War Office, took place from eight to half past nine. Throughout the day the weather was very cold, but kept fair till between nine and ten at night, when the snow, which had been threatened in Admiral Fitzroy's telegram, began to fall, and

helped to dispel the vast assemblage. There was an immense rush before eleven o'clock to the railway stations, whence return trains started at that late hour for Glasgow, Dundee, and Newcastle, hundreds of visitors having come from all these places for the occasion, and corresponding multitudes from the intervening stations. Some of the excursionists would not reach home before five a.m. For days before the railways had been brimming in hosts of visitors, and the town was so full that beds were scarcely to be obtained. Altogether, it was felt by all who saw the Edinburgh illumination that it was a glorious success. The grand effect produced infinitely exceeded all anticipations formed of the display. In the clear frosty sky the illuminated valley exhibited a most splendid spectacle, and one which even those who had seen some of the finest Continental illuminations pronounced to be quite unequalled.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

During the public rejoicings in Bilston, an alarming occurrence happened which threatened to cast a deep gloom over the entire proceedings in which the people of that town were celebrating the Royal nuptials. A part of the public jubilation consisted of the firing of the Chinese trophy belonging to the Commissioners, who are the governing body in the Bilston township. The piece of artillery was placed in the care of a butcher named Robinson, and a colliery watchman named Eyre, as gunners, for these men having seen in certain of the artillery companies of the line, were believed when they expressed confidence in their own ability to perform with safety to themselves and the public the duties which they sought. Eleven rounds had been fired in rapid succession, too rapid as the event proved; for, as the twelfth charge, which consisted of 6 lb. of gunpowder in a bag, was being rammed home, the over-heated condition of the piece occasioned the powder to explode, and both the gunners were blown from the cannon's mouth high into the air. Their clothes had become ignited, and so great was the force by which they were impelled that in the air they turned several somersaults before their bodies were finally landed upon the ground, at a spot ten yards away from that upon which they were standing when the accident happened. With much courage a young man, named Job Jones, tore the burning clothes from the person of Eyre; and both the injured men, having first been attended by two surgeons, were removed to their respective homes. Their injuries are confined to burns of such a nature that well-grounded hopes are entertained of their ultimate recovery.

BLACKHEATH.

On Tuesday night, at eight o'clock, an immense number of persons from Greenwich, Woolwich, Deptford, and the metropolis assembled at Blackheath to witness a splendid pyrotechnic display in celebration of the marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. A volunteer band was in attendance, and the proceedings were under the patronage of his Royal Highness Prince Arthur, who, with other distinguished visitors, was present, and seats were provided for the accommodation of a numerous party. A long line of carriages was drawn up in a suitable position. The fireworks were provided by a subscription amongst the inhabitants of Blackheath, with the exception of a large number of rockets, &c., granted by the War Department, and which were conveyed from Woolwich Arsenal on Monday in seven artillery-waggons. The volunteer drill-shed and other buildings on Blackheath were brilliantly illuminated, and many appropriate devices, &c., were exhibited at Greenwich and Deptford.

PORTSMOUTH.

The Royal marriage was officially celebrated here, in accordance with general orders previously issued. At an early hour the Royal standard was hoisted at the saluting-battery and other stations in the garrison, and all the ships in commission were gaily decked with colours and garlands, the Royal standards of England and Denmark occupying the post of honour. The ships at Spithead, comprising the Revenge, flagship of Rear-Admiral Smart; Warrior, the Hon. A. Cochrane; Emerald, Captain A. Cumming; Melpomene, Captain Erart; Imperieuse, Captain Gibson; Raccoon, Captain Count Gleichen; Resistance, Captain Chamberlain; and Defence, Captain Phillimore, were drawn up in a line at equal distances, the flagship being the centre.

The various Government establishments were also decked out with flags and evergreens. At eleven o'clock the troops in the garrison and some local volunteers assembled, Major-General Lord W. Paulet, accompanied by a brilliant Staff, arrived on the ground at half-past eleven, when his Lordship was received with a general salute. A feu de joie was then fired, after which there was another general salute, and the troops cheered most heartily, led by his Lordship. A review and sham fight then took place.

At one o'clock a Royal salute was fired from all the ships, which was led off from the Port Admiral's flagship Victory. A Royal salute was also fired from Fort Monckton, Gosport, and the troops, comprising the Royal Artillery, Royal Marine Light Infantry, and 6th Regiment, assembled on Haslem Coast, and fired a feu de joie simultaneously with those at Portsmouth. The whole of the employees in the Government establishments were granted a holiday.

All the troops wore wedding-favours of Coventry ribbon. The illuminations at night were very brilliant.

BRIGHTON.

A general holiday was observed here. The Mayor, Corporation, and members of the borough headed a procession two miles in extent, comprising the volunteer corps and friendly societies. Dinner was provided for 7000 children, who afterwards joined in rural sports. The illuminations were very extensive and brilliant, and at night there was a display of fireworks from the Coast Pier, and two hulls charged with combustibles, anchored about half a mile from shore, were set fire to. There was also a torchlight procession, and bonfires on the neighbouring heights.

ALDERSHOT.

A gigantic bonfire was lit on the night of Tuesday, the 10th, on the brow of Caesar's Camp, at Aldershot. The pile, carefully constructed of furze, wood, and tar barrels, and containing 42,000 cubic feet of materials, was 45 ft. high, and at the height of 70 ft. there waved a Royal standard. When lit the scene is said to have been grand in the extreme. In the centre the flames, rearing their many forked heads to a height of about 70 ft. or 80 ft., were, owing to a fresh southerly wind, carried clear of the flag, which, brilliantly illuminated, appeared to look down disdainfully upon the gigantic efforts for its destruction which were being made below. On the plateau forming the top of Caesar's Camp the eye rested on the bright scarlet uniforms of some thousands of the troops, who had come up to do honour to the occasion, but on the other hand the steep, receding sides of the camp left a darkness beyond, which appeared the more intense from the contrast to the now white heat of the blazing mass. For some time it was a matter of doubt whether the flag would be consumed; but gradually, as the lighter materials composing the bonfire were burnt, and the pile sank, it became obvious that the burning of the pole would be the only thing that would bring it down. Now was seen the advantage of the outer casing of fire-poles—they retained the mass in shape. There were no masses of fire tumbling off the top, nor did the core get cut of shape in any way, but it burnt fairly and regularly throughout. One by one the spectators dropped off as the night wore on, leaving only a few who were anxiously watching the downfall of the central pole, in the hope of being able to secure even a fragment of the flag which had so gallantly held its own, but even that hope seemed doomed to disappointment, for at twelve o'clock the pile was still blazing nearly as fiercely as ever, and the pole, though out of the perpendicular, seemed likely to hold on to the last; but, about two o'clock, even its great thickness was no proof against the intense heat, and it fell, amid the cheers of the few spectators, who immediately commenced a general scramble for the bunting, each anxious to possess a relic of so auspicious an occasion.

CELEBRATIONS ON THE CONTINENT.

COPENHAGEN.

The grand banquet given on Tuesday, the 10th, by the King in the Royal palace of Christiansborg, to celebrate the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, was in all respects a great state affair at

which were present the Landgrave Wilhelm of Hesse (the father of Prince Christian, and consequently grandfather of the Princess of Wales), M. Hall, and all the other members of the Cabinet, the foreign Ministers accredited to this Court, the high officers of State, the presidents of the Rigsdag and of the Landsthing and Folkething, as well as many other members of these assemblies, together with a large portion of the nobility, and many citizens who are distinguished in literature, in commerce, or in the arts.

While the guests were at table the King received from Prince Christian a telegram from Windsor announcing that the marriage of the Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra had been duly solemnized in the chapel of St. George, in the presence of Queen Victoria and a brilliant Court, upon which his Majesty, in glowing terms and in the most affectionate manner, proposed a toast to the health and happiness of the Prince and Princess of Wales, which was most heartily responded to, and the telegraph was again set to work to convey to the newly-married Royal couple the sincere congratulations of the King and his company.

The ball which was given at the Casino was a great success. It was magnificent, both as to the company which filled the halls and the splendid manner in which they were decorated. It was at one time apprehended, from the crowded state of the streets in consequence of the illuminations, that it might be difficult, if not dangerous, for many to reach the Casino; but any fears that may have been felt on that point were at once dispelled when the excellent arrangements made by the police to prevent all confusion were known and understood; and as these arrangements applied to those who were only spectators of the illuminations, as well as to those who were to be participants in the festivities, the whole passed off in the most orderly and satisfactory manner. On such an occasion it was not to be expected that inconvenience, in some cases, and even accidents in others, could be altogether avoided; but of what occurred in either way the instances were so rare and of such little consequence that any more particular report with regard to them would be needless.

The illuminations were most brilliant, and the abundant use of gas for the purpose, which is here, on such occasions, comparatively a novelty, was a great improvement. This was particularly remarkable in the open spaces before and behind Christiansborg Palace, Kongens Nytorv, in different parts of Nørregade, of Akademigade, of Amalgade, and more especially at the residence of the British Minister in Bredgade; while at the English Consulate also the effect was very striking, as it was at many of the principal hotels, clubs, and shops, where the transparencies and devices were generally appropriate. There was throughout a strong desire to do all honour to one who is hardly ever spoken of here but as the "dear Princess;" and, as there was a praiseworthy emulation among many as to making the illumination serve as a faithful exponent of the feelings of loyalty to the Crown and of attachment to the dynasty of Prince Christian, as by law established, by which the people were actuated, it was impossible that the demonstration, made with such good objects in view, should have been other than most perfectly successful.

BERLIN.

In honour and celebration of the marriage of the Prince of Wales, a sumptuous banquet, to which nearly one hundred persons sat down, was on Tuesday, the 10th, given at the British Embassy in Berlin. The King and Queen of Prussia, and the Princes and Princesses of the Royal family honoured Sir Andrew and Lady Buchanan with their company. The remainder of the guests included the members of the British Embassy, the chiefs of the foreign missions in Berlin, the French Secretary of Embassy and the Danish Secretary of Legation, the Prussian Ministers, several ladies and grand officers of the Court, aides-de-camp, &c. Dinner over, his Majesty King William proposed the health of the Queen of England, and afterwards that of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and of the English and Danish families. The British Ambassador proposed the health of their Majesties of Prussia. After Queen Victoria's health had been drunk, the King asked for pen and ink to indite a telegram to her Majesty informing her of it, as well as to congratulate her on the event of the day, and to let her know the manner in which it had been celebrated in his capital. At that moment arrived a telegram from our Queen to the Queen of Prussia, with some interesting and gratifying details of the wedding that had just taken place. The façade of the Embassy, was brilliantly illuminated with gas—Royal crowns, entwined initials, banners, and Prince of Wales's feathers. The whole entertainment went off in the most successful and satisfactory manner.

TURIN.

Although the English residents at Turin do not form a very numerous body, they would yield precedence to none of their countrymen in the feelings of affectionate loyalty with which the marriage of the Prince of Wales with Princess Alexandra is regarded by all the subjects of Queen Victoria. In compliance with the good old national usage, by which social intercourse is made the medium of expressing the blended love and veneration for Crown and country, they sat down to a dinner at the Hotel Feder, the walls and roof of which rang with such cheers as have seldom been heard within it since its foundation-stone was laid. The epoch in the history of Royalty suggesting those touches of nature that make the whole world kin, called forth, on the part of the speakers, the appropriate auguries of a domestic happiness in which the Heir Apparent of England and his beautiful bride shall reproduce—for the example and admiration of our countrymen—the conjugal virtues of her Majesty and of the late Prince Consort. Nor, amidst the national themes to which prominence were justly given, did the English party at the Hotel Feder omit to express their cordial respect for the Constitutional Sovereign of Italy and for his patriotic rule, and their brotherly good-will towards their kinsmen still, alas! engaged in internecine transatlantic strife.

BONN.

On the evening of the 10th inst. the English and German residents at Bonn dined together at the Golden Star Hotel, to celebrate the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. More than one hundred persons were present, comprising nearly all the English ladies and gentlemen resident at Bonn, many Americans, and a great number of Germans, among whom was Count von der Goltz, the chief Burgomaster (M. Kaufman), Curator Beeler, and many professors of the University. The saloon in which the meeting was held was very handsomely decorated, and prominent among the adornments was a large portrait of her Majesty, surrounded by English and Danish, as well as numerous Prussian, flags. The English pastor, the Rev. Mr. Anderson, presided, and at the close of an eloquent speech proposed the toast of "The Queen, and God bless her." The applause which followed was very general and enthusiastic, and the whole assembly sang the National Hymn standing. Other loyal and patriotic toasts were drunk, but that which, next to the preceding toast, called forth the greatest applause, was "The health of the Prince and Princess of Wales." The meeting was marked by much cordiality and good feeling between the Germans and English who were present, and was altogether of a very pleasing nature.

NICE.

One of the most magnificent fêtes ever given at Nice took place at the Théâtre Impérial, on Tuesday, the 10th inst., on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra of Denmark. The Duke of Hamilton took the lead, and, assisted by a committee of English gentlemen, organised a ball which was got up in a style of extraordinary splendour. The King of Sardinia and all the principal visitors wintering at Nice, as well as the local authorities, were present; and the entire company consisted of about 500 persons.

Mr. Peabody, the eminent American merchant, who has been at Nice for some time for the benefit of his health, gave a magnificent banquet there on the Prince of Wales's marriage day, and to this he invited not only all the principal English visitors, but also a large number of Frenchmen and other foreigners. Mr. Peabody was supported on his right by the Duke of Hamilton, Lord Rotheby, and Lord Charles Clinton, and on his left by the Prefect of the department, Lord Brougham, Lord Headfort, and General Corrad, commanding the troops of the district.

THE HAGUE.

On this auspicious occasion, her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Sir John Mordaunt, and Lady Mordaunt, gave a grand ball, at which they had the honour of receiving the King and Queen of the Netherlands, all the other members of the Royal family, and the whole of the diplomatic corps, the principal officers of State, and other members of the aristocracy of Holland.

The ball was opened by Sir John and Lady Mordaunt, who were honoured in having for partners their Majesties the King and Queen of the Netherlands. The rooms were most splendidly decorated with the choicest exotics, and dancing was kept up to a late hour.

PISA.

On the 10th the English inhabitants of Pisa celebrated the union of the Prince of Wales with Princess Alexandra. The English assembled in considerable number in the first gardens beyond the Poggio gate, where the national band executed some select pieces of music, and played the National Anthem three times, while the English stood with their heads uncovered; after the third time of its performance they made the air ring with three loud hurrahs. We salute thee, O generous nation of England, the only example of a powerful civilisation, the model of political education! Thou art the teacher of liberty to all the nations, and from the height of thy truly free tribunal in thy popular assembly thou proceedest in perfecting thy venerated and beloved institutions without tumult and without discouragement; thou, in every corner of the earth where thy ancient banner is displayed, it teaches all freemen this affectionate respect which is due to thy dynasty!

RETURN OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES TO WINDSOR CASTLE.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales left Osborne at an early hour on Tuesday morning, and, crossing the Solent in the Fairy, Royal steam-yacht, entered Portsmouth Harbour under a Royal salute from the ships of war and the Platform Battery.

Their Royal Highnesses travelled by a special train on the South-Western Railway to Basingstoke, and thence over the Great Western Railway to Reading and Windsor.

At the pretty village of Mortimer, situated midway between Basingstoke and Reading, the Prince and Princess graciously consented to make a short stay, at the station while they received a salute from the inhabitants. Upon reaching the station their Royal Highnesses came forward, and the Vicar of Mortimer (the Rev. R. J. Gould) advanced and presented the address. Mrs. Gould, as the representative of the matrons of Mortimer, then handed in a bouquet composed of carnations, and a pretty little blue-eyed girl (daughter of the Rev. Mr. White) presented a bouquet on behalf of the maidens of the village. The Prince received each in the most gracious manner. The Prince was informed by Sir P. Hunter that the train had just passed the ancient Roman town of Silchester, where King Alfred was crowned. After the presentations had been made the crowd cheered heartily, and the train continued its course. Their Royal Highnesses repeatedly bowed in a most pleasing manner, and the Princess looked the very embodiment of happiness, her amiable countenance winning the admiration of all the good people of Mortimer.

According to a telegraphic communication, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales were expected to arrive in Windsor at half-past one o'clock this afternoon by the Great Western Railway, and long before that hour the station and the whole line of route, through High-street and Park-hill to the castle, was thronged with spectators. At two o'clock the Royal train came in, attended by the Hon. Mr. Ponsonby and Mr. Kelly, traffic superintendent, who took charge of it from Basingstoke Junction to its arrival. The Prince and his consort proceeded from the station to the castle in an open carriage, amidst the hurrahs of the multitude. The streets were decorated with flags of all nations and various devices, and looked as gay as on the day of their departure for Osborne. There was no guard of honour, and the Prince and his suite occupied only two carriages.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, it is expected, will leave London on Saturday (to-day) for Norfolk, and return to town in the course of a week.

ROYAL WEDDING GIFTS.

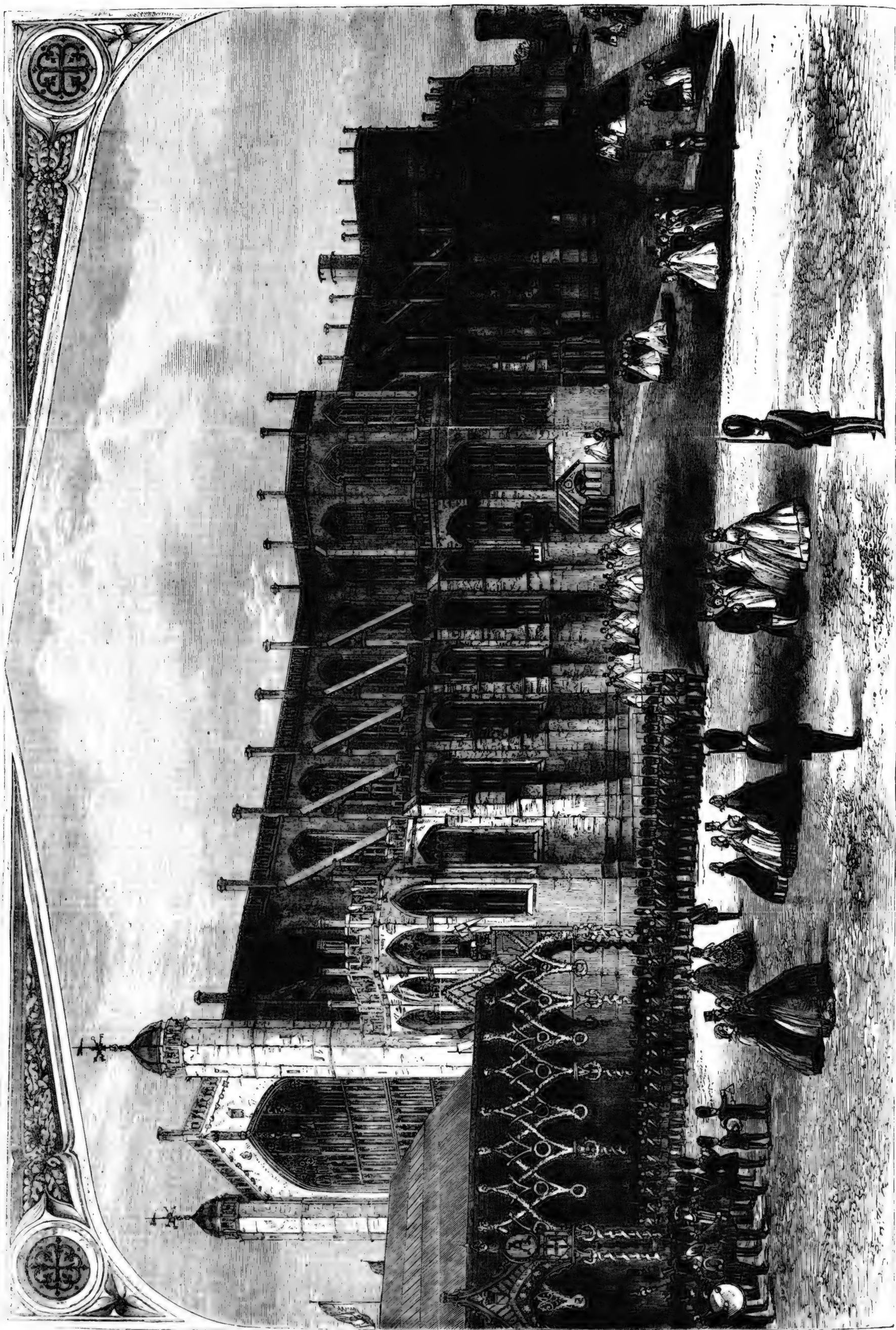
On pages 204, 205, and 220 we have engraved some of the presents presented by her Majesty the Queen to the Princess of Wales. These elegant articles consist of a diamond and opal cross, bracelets, brooches, and earrings. These were the presents intended to have been jointly given to the youthful Princesses by the Queen and his late Royal Highness Prince Albert, from whose designs they have been manufactured by Messrs. Garrard.

In the ILLUSTRATED TIMES for March 7, page 148, will be found descriptions of the necklaces and coronet presented by the Prince of Wales to the Princesses, of which we this week give Engravings; and on page 188 of last week's number the leading features of the present to her Royal Highness from the city of London will be found detailed.

A few particulars regarding the Royal wedding cake, of which we print an illustration on page 235, will also be found in our last week's number, page 174.

MARIA THERESA AND THE PARTITION OF POLAND.—The Polish question being now fairly before the public, it may be well that it should know what the Empress Maria Theresa thought of the first partition of Poland, which took place in 1772. The illustrations lately thus wrote to Prince Kaunitz, her Chancellor, in the above-mentioned year:—"When my claim to my various countries was disputed, and I knew not where I could find peace and quiet be confined, I relied on my good right and the help of God. But in this matter (the partition of Poland) we are about to commit an atrocious wrong, and to act in contradiction to common sense. I must confess that I feel very anxious, and that I am ashamed to show my face. Only consider, Prince, what an example we shall give to the world if we sacrifice our honour and reputation for the sake of a miserable bit of Poland or of Moldavia and Wallachia. As I well see that I stand alone, and am no longer en vogue, I let things go their own way, though not without very great regret." When the document relative to the partition of Poland was laid before the Empress, she wrote on it the following remarkable words:—"It is assented to because so many great and learned men wish it. But when I have long been dead people will see what will arise from such a violation of everything that has hitherto been held sacred and just."

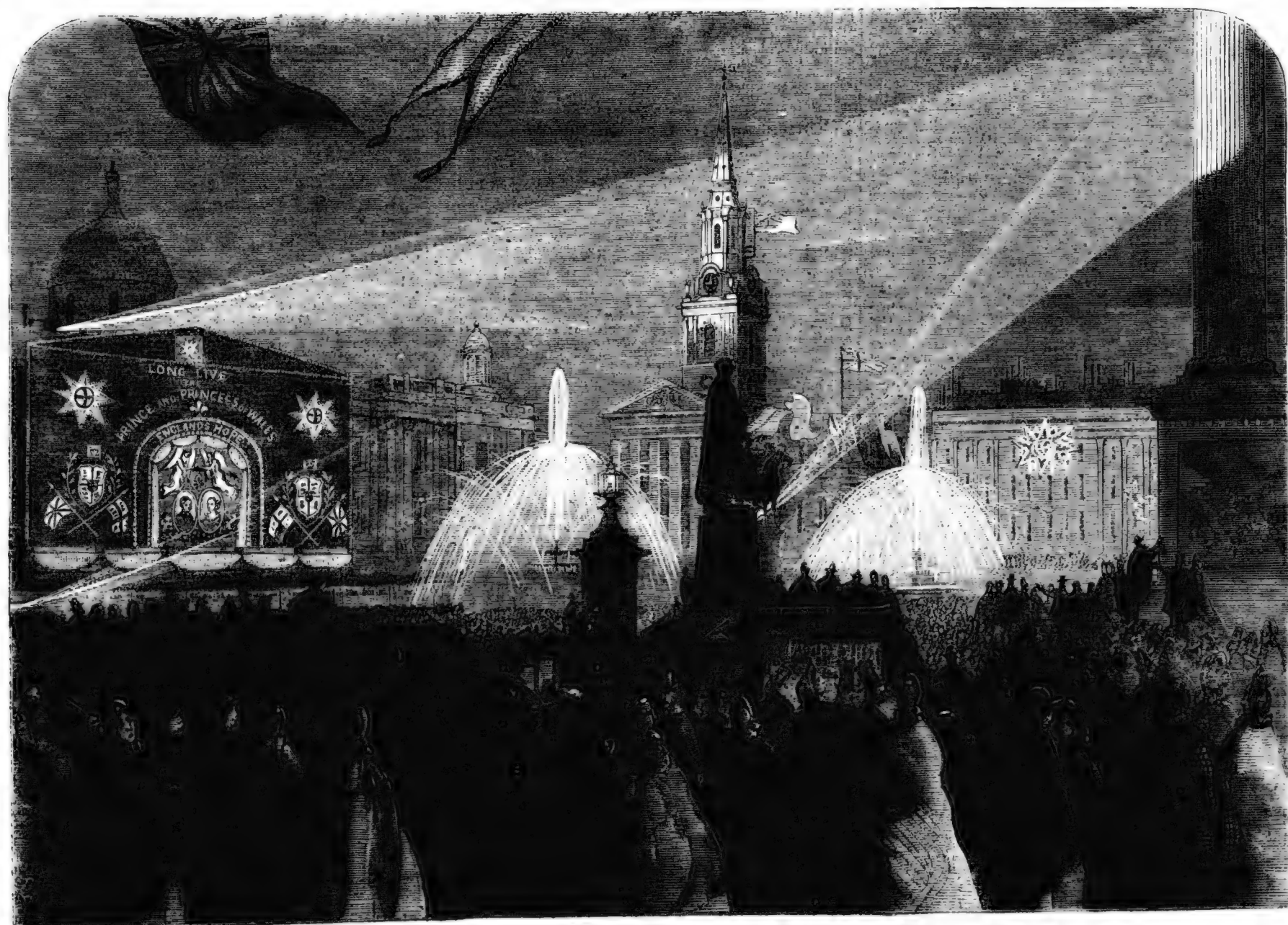
MANUFACTURE OF POWDER BY THE CONFEDERATES.—When, upon the 13th of April, 1861, Fort Sumter surrendered to General Beauregard and the Confederates, not one single pound of gunpowder was anywhere manufactured in the Confederacy. A rigorous blockade of the seaports of the South was immediately commenced, through which the principal ingredient of gunpowder (saltpetre) had to be largely sucked in. At this juncture it seemed advisable to President Davis to intrust to Colonel Raines, formerly an officer of the United States' army, the responsibility of planning and building a large Government mill for the manufacture of gunpowder. For this post Colonel Raines possessed eminent qualifications. He had been Professor of Chemistry at West Point, and, for some years since leaving the army, he had been at the head of some large ironworks at Newburg, on the Hudson. Augusta, in Georgia, was selected as the site of the intended mill, and never, both as regards the person and the situation pitched upon, was happier sagacity evinced by the President. Following, so far as he was acquainted with it, the plan upon which the gunpowder-mill at Waltham Abbey, belonging to the English Government, is built, Colonel Raines proceeded to construct the works necessary for his purpose; and the success which has attended his efforts has been such as could never have been believed before the pressure of war and privation had awakened Southern ingenuity and enterprise. The result is that, at the cost of about £20,000, one of the most perfect gunpowder-mills in the world has been produced, which turns out 5000 lb. of powder a day, and could produce double that quantity if worked day and night, and much more if worked under the exigency of a pressing demand. The cost of this powder, in spite of the costliness of the saltpetre which has been introduced through the blockade, is about 4s. a pound, which is believed to be about the same as its cost in England. The mill has now been constantly at work for many months, and, consequently, more powder than the Confederacy is likely to require for years to come has already been produced. There is another Government powder-mill at Columbia, in South Carolina, working, I believe, to supply the wants (not very large as yet) of the Confederate navy. But all the gunpowder issued for the service of the Confederate armies of Virginia and the West, and also for the defence of Charleston and Vicksburg, has come out of the mill at Augusta; and it was stated to me by an Ordnance officer in Charleston that the powder which he had recently received there and tested was very nearly, if not entirely, of the standard of the finest English manufacture.—Times Correspondent in the South.



ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, ON THE MORNING OF THE WEDDING OF THE PRINCE OF WALES: THE ARRIVAL OF THE ROYAL PROCESSION.



THE GUILDHALL ON THE NIGHT OF THE ILLUMINATIONS IN HONOUR OF THE ROYAL MARRIAGE.



ILLUMINATION OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY AND TRAFALGAR-SQUARE ON THE NIGHT OF THE ROYAL MARRIAGE.

SIR JAMES OUTRAM.

Sir James Outram, whose death took place in Pan on the 11th inst., had acquired great reputation by his military and political services in India. He was born in 1803, at Butterley-hill, Derbyshire. His father was a civil engineer of some celebrity, and he himself was educated at Marischal College, Aberdeen, whence he went out as a cadet to India in 1819. He was afterwards appointed Adjutant to the 23rd Regiment of Native Infantry, being for some time previously in command of a body of irregular troops. From 1828 to 1835 he served in Candelish, and in the latter year he was employed in organising a regular force in Gujarat. In 1838 he was Aide-de-Camp to Lord Keane, and took an active part in the capture of Guznee. He subsequently performed, in succession, the functions of political agent at Gujarat, and those of commissary in the Upper Scinde, besides undertaking the duties of British Resident at Hyderabad, at Sattara, and at Lucknow. In all these capacities he especially recommended himself to the esteem of his superior officers as well by his military vigour as by his admirable administrative qualities. In 1842 he was appointed Commissioner to negotiate with the Ameer of Scinde, in which position he adopted views at variance with those of General Sir Charles Napier—a difference which found very decided expression, after he quitted Scinde, in the publication of a work in two volumes, in which he severely criticised the conduct of Sir Charles relative to the conquest of that country. The views he entertained on the policy of Sir Charles Napier afterwards received the approbation of the directors of the East India Company.

Sir James visited England on furlough in 1843, and in the following year he was appointed to a command in the Mahratta country. In 1847 he was appointed British Resident at Baroda, and also at Bombay, where he exposed the official venality then prevalent, which he was largely instrumental in suppressing. In 1856 he was nominated by Lord Dalhousie successor to Sir John Lawrence as Chief Commissioner of Oude. In the military operations in Persia, in 1857, he took the most active and prominent part, and was raised to the rank of Lieutenant-General in that year. As Sir Henry Lawrence's successor at Lucknow, the noble part he played during the mutiny in India, and more especially in connection with the advance of Sir Henry Havelock's force, are yet fresh in the recollection of the public; but the following tributes to his services by distinguished members of both Houses of Parliament, in April, 1859, will now be read with interest. In proposing in the House of Lords a vote of thanks to the Government and army of India, the Earl of Derby said:—"The earlier services of Sir James Outram during this rebellion are perfectly well known to your Lordships, who have not yet forgotten the noble forbearance and generous self-denial with which he met General Havelock, on his return from his first attempt up on Lucknow, when he abstained from superadding him in the command until the final relief of the garrison, and left that gallant officer to obtain that glory which he had so well merited by his previous efforts. After the relief of the garrison and the retirement of the Commander-in-Chief, Sir James Outram was left with a small force in the exposed and perilous post of Alumbagh, and there he was exposed for several months to the constant assaults of an enemy ten times his force—assaults, however, which on every occasion he successfully repelled—until the Commander-in-Chief again returned to the siege of Lucknow. Sir James Outram maintained his post, and in maintaining it he made it clear to the natives of India that they were not to suppose that the retirement of the Commander-in-Chief was more than a temporary withdrawal. Against such an idea the maintenance of Alumbagh was a standing protest and a standing menace to the city of Lucknow, and no long time elapsed before that menace was converted into a reality." Lord Stanley, in proposing a similar vote in the House of Commons, said:—"The services of Sir James Outram require, I imagine, no mention from me in order to become known to this House. We are all well aware how, in conjunction with Sir Henry Havelock, he penetrated into Lucknow with reinforcements in the month of September, 1857; how he took command of the garrison and remained there until relieved by Lord Clyde, in the month of November; how he held the isolated and exposed post of the Alumbagh until March, in the face of vast bodies of rebels whom he kept in check; and how he aided in the final capture of Lucknow. In maintaining the occupation of the Alumbagh, Sir James Outram rendered a service of not only great military, but of great political, importance, because he thus proved to all India that the withdrawal of our troops from Lucknow was a withdrawal dictated merely by strategic reasons, and did not assume the aspect of an abandonment of that city. I shall simply add that Lord Clyde, in mentioning the name of Sir James Outram, speaks of 'the brilliant and thoroughly complete manner in which he executed the duties intrusted to him.' The deceased, while in the chief command of the Persian expedition, in 1856, was made C.B., and in 1858 he was rewarded with a baronetcy. He was afterwards made a G.C.B., and promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General. He returned to England in 1860, greatly shattered in health, and on several public occasions has been received with the honour justly due to his eminent public services and his high personal character. The particulars of the last illness and death of the gallant deceased have not reached us.

On the creation of the order of the Star of India, Sir James Outram was enrolled as one of its first and not least distinguished members, and was pressed to become one of the (Home) Indian Council; but his health was too far gone for any more work.

In July, 1862, Sir James Outram received the honorary degree of D.C.L. from the University of Oxford at the grand commemoration, in company with Lord Palmerston, Sir Roundell Palmer, Sir E. W. Head, and others. He was designated by Dr. Twiss "Dux fortissimus," and was warmly praised for his various services; but it was painful to see the effort which the ceremony caused the gallant veteran, who had to be lifted up to the doctors' seats, amid a perfect storm of sympathetic cheering from all the theatre.

Sir James Outram married, Dec. 18, 1835, Margaret Clementina, second daughter of Mr. James Anderson, of Bridge-end, Brechin. By this lady, who survives him, he leaves issue an only son, Francis Boyd, born Sept. 23, 1836, educated at Haileybury, who entered the Bengal Civil Service in January, 1856, and is Assistant-Secretary of the North-Western Provinces of Bengal. Sir Francis Outram, second Baronet, married, Oct. 20, 1860, Jane Anne, daughter of Mr. P. Davidson, of Inchmarlo, Aberdeenshire, and there is happily a probability that the honoured name of Outram may be handed down to posterity in future generations anxious of the glorious fame of James, first Baronet.

The Dean of Westminster has acceded to the wish of Sir James Outram's friends that the remains of this distinguished soldier should be interred in Westminster Abbey.

SUICIDE FOR LOVE AT SIXTY-THREE.—On Sunday morning, Mr. E. Hockin, maltster and auctioneer, Harland, was found hanging by the neck to a nail in his own house. Though about sixty-three, he had for some time been paying his addresses to a respectable woman in that town; but, unfortunately for his comfort, the match had been broken off, where so many others have met with the same fate, on the settlement of the property. To get out of his way, the lady went to London, and this unsettled his mind.

THE DISTRESS IN THE NORTH.—Mr. Farnall's report exhibits a further decrease in the distress in the cotton districts. For the week ending the 7th inst. the decrease, as compared with the previous week, was 1513. Nine unions, however, have increased their poor, though the balance is more than restored in sixteen other places. Mr. Farnall adds that there are now 213,768 persons in receipt of parochial relief, and 226,452 others who are assisted by local committees, making in all 440,220 persons wholly or partially destitute.

PRESIDENT DAVIS IN DANGER.—A letter from New Orleans, dated Jan. 23, says: "I regretted not having a moment in which to write you per Roanoke of the most extraordinary and wonderful escape of Jeff Davis and party the other day at Mobile. The brief particulars are these:—It appears that the big rebel and his staff, with Commodore Buchanan and others equally distinguished, had started on a tour of inspection, in particular to visit Fort Morgan. Suddenly the machinery of their steam-tug gave way and they were drifting out to sea, when they behought themselves to take a small boat and go, as they pretended, for the English Consul, who at that moment happened to be in one of the steamers of our blockading fleet. Unusual and extraordinary as this feat would seem, it succeeded, and the renowned Jeff Davis got safely back to his own dominions ere any of our people suspected his presence near us."

SYMPATHY WITH POLAND.

A NUMEROUSLY-ATTENDED public meeting to express sympathy with the Poles in their present effort to achieve their independence took place on Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock, in the Guildhall.

The Lord Mayor being prevented from attending by an attack of bronchitis, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Lawrence occupied the chair. A large number of noblemen, members of Parliament, and other influential gentlemen, occupied places on the platform.

The Chairman, having briefly introduced the business of the meeting by an expression of cordial sympathy with the cause of Poland, called upon

The Earl of Harrowby, who moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—"That Russia, by the violation of her engagement to Europe on behalf of Poland, and by the system of confiscation, exile, and massacre which she has substituted in their place, has forfeited all right to the possession of Poland; and, by the condition of normal discontent which she has thus created in the breast of an oppressed and gallant people, exposes the peace of Europe to a constant danger, which it is the interest of all to avert." He said that the question now brought before them was one which had long interested the feelings of Englishmen, and had at the same time created a feeling of indignation at a breach of accepted obligations. Nothing, he contended, could have been more tyrannical than, under the name of a conscription, to compel men to enter a service which they abhorred, not for the purpose of saving their country, but for the purpose of keeping their country in servitude and chains. In this country we could do little, he was afraid, in the matter; but the people of England might throw all their influence into the scale, and boldly tell Russia that, as far as the Treaty of Vienna went, and by which alone Russia held Poland, that treaty was broken, and that the Poles were free to act for themselves, and that all other countries were free to act to them as independent of that Sovereign who had forfeited his engagements with them.

The Hon. G. Denman, M.P., in seconding the resolution, expressed his opinion that Poland had nobly earned its independence. Russia had promised national institutions, but had granted none; had promised an army, but, instead of doing so, had draughted off the flower of the youth of Poland for service in Siberia. Confiscation and exile had been the policy of Russia, and the deliberate system of the Russian Emperor and authorities had been—God forbid that he should say of the Russian people—to provoke the Poles to insurrection, and had then massacred them in cold blood in the marketplace and streets of Warsaw. The insurrection by the Poles was the natural and necessary consequence of that wicked act called the conscription, and the people were obliged to adopt that course as the smallest of the evils presented to them.

The resolution was carried unanimously. Sir H. Hoare moved the second resolution, which was to the following effect:—"That it is the duty of every Englishman to labour to obtain the cessation of diplomatic intercourse with Russia until such state of things be put an end to." He was sure that it was the duty of every Englishman to obtain the cessation of all diplomatic intercourse between this country and Russia. The result would not necessarily be war, though war was always preceded by a cessation of diplomatic intercourse. He believed, if England and France were to take a decided stand, Russia would flinch from provoking a struggle. He trusted the state of things referred to in the resolution was being put an end to by Langiewicz and his brave companions. He had no doubt that, if Austria were convinced that she might rely upon England, she would be inclined to take vigorous steps for doing justice to the Poles. He felt assured that, rather than Imperial order should reign at Warsaw, as it was understood in Russia—rather than the noble insurrection in Poland should be trodden out—rather than that the stillness of death should reign over Warsaw—the citizens of London would not only go to war, but would demand it as a right.

Mr. Pope Hennessy, M.P., who was very warmly received, rose to second the resolution, and in doing so said:—"Why have we met here to-day? Is it to express a barren sympathy with Poland; or is it to strengthen the hands of Government in a very grave undertaking? I tell you that this meeting of to-day is no child's play. We are met here to-day, in the very heart of the accumulated wealth and ancient institutions of England, to make a solemn protest, not so much on behalf of the Poles as on behalf of our own public faith pledged to Europe. I appear here to-day to express my opinion as an elector and a citizen of London on this great question; and I tell you at once that, if it is to go abroad that under no circumstances is England to go to war on behalf of her own treaties, this meeting is an idle farce. The best way to preserve your own public faith and the peace of Europe is to let it be known to the Czar of Russia that you have in this country a public opinion which will strengthen and, if needs be, compel the Government to act. We do not want concessions from the Czar; we want no Russian reforms; we want that which we are entitled to demand, and which the Poles are entitled to receive—a complete and independent restoration of the ancient kingdom of Poland.

This resolution was likewise agreed to unanimously. Mr. H. D. Seymour, M.P., moved the next resolution:—"That the deep interest which is taken by the people of England in the righteous and heroic struggle in which the Polish nation is now engaged for the recovery of its independence imposes on this meeting the duty of giving the best effect they can to the preceding resolutions; and, with this view, that a petition embodying such resolutions be presented to the two Houses of Parliament." Mr. Seymour suggested that another debate should take place in Parliament on the subject of Poland before the Easter recess, every member on the appointed day bringing up a petition in favour of Poland from his constituents; and that a committee should be appointed in London to receive subscriptions, which, by communication between the Lord Mayor and the Prefect of the Seine, should assume an international character.

Mr. E. Beales seconded the resolution, and at the same time proposed the adoption of an address to the Poles expressive of the sympathy of the meeting in their sufferings and struggles, and concluding as follows:—"May the hour be nigh at hand that shall terminate the agony of your conflict in the glories of its triumph; when Poland's long night of bondage and of suffering shall be at an end; when the lawless tyrant shall have fallen from her limbs, and the day of her recovered freedom shall dawn upon her in full effulgence; and when Great Britain shall joyfully hail in her Sarmatian sister, independent and powerful, free and loving freedom, one of the best and surest guarantees for the peace, the liberty, and the welfare of Europe."

Lord cries of "Shaftebury," being raised. The Earl of Shaftebury, who was warmly cheered, came forward and said, in support of the resolution, "Is there a man in England who has a heart for what is great, true, and noble who does not indeed feel the deepest and most unalterable sympathy with the people, the patriots of Poland? I will not call this, as I have seen it somewhere called, a rebellion of the Polish people, because a rebellion seems to pre-suppose that the party who would put it down has something of right on its side. This is a great and glorious insurrection of a wronged and abused people driven to despair by cruelties unprecedented in history, by a refinement of cruelty unparalleled in the antecedent periods of war. Where, I ask you, if you ransack the records of past ages, will you find anything like that vile and ever accursed conscription conceived by the Emperor of Russia, and carried out against a gallant and defenceless people? I look upon it as equal in cruelty to anything perpetrated by Nadir Shah, and equal in refinement even to the worst deeds of the vile Emperor Tiberius. Rebellion, indeed! When have the Polish people ever acknowledged the right of their oppressors? When has Europe simultaneously confessed that Poland was justly held in subjugation? Why, look at the conscience of half Europe. What was the language of Maria Theresa when she signed that vile partition, the source of such woes to Europe and to Poland? She signed it under a protest that all Europe in future times would look upon it as the greatest political crime that ever was perpetrated. What was the conscience of the Emperor Francis? Did not he on his death-bed declare that the partition of Poland, though the work of his ancestor, rested upon his conscience, and that he was ready to surrender his share of that vile partition so that it might go to the reconstruction of Poland, but not to be annexed to the empire of Russia? What is the conscience now of the reigning Governor of Austria? Is not the reigning Sovereign of Austria much disposed to follow in the steps of his ancestor and predecessor, Maria Theresa? What says all France? What says the British people? Are we then, looking to the origin of this, to be detained with arguments upon the conditions of the Treaty of Vienna? The right of the Polish people is long antecedent to the Treaty of Vienna. The claim of the Poles rests upon the inalienable rights of man—upon the inalienable rights of being a nation. It is indefeasible, and can never be wiped out. It dated from before the partition, and will exist to the end of time. I trust the time is not far distant when we shall recognise Poland as readmitted into the family of nations, and date her progress from the time when she starts again, with all the newness, all the life, all the joy, all the freedom of a long-oppressed but regenerated nation. The whole of this rising has been marked by great sagacity, by much judgment, and by true rectitude of feeling. Mark the letter of that good, that great man, Langiewicz, who appears to be another Garibaldi raised up for this particular occasion; mark the prudence of that man. He receives from his old friend and coadjutor—his old commander, Garibaldi—a letter tendering his services. What is his reply? Langiewicz, in the name of the Polish nation, says: 'I love you; I thank you for your generous and noble offer; but come not here. Our movement must not have anything of a revolutionary character. Let the Poles work out their destiny. The patriots of Poland will do the work. We want your sympathy; we are not in want of your active co-operation.' Let us, therefore, come forward with our expression of sympathy; but let us come forward simultaneously with our language of denunciation. Let us tell the Emperor of Russia and all his myrmidons that they have perpetrated acts of cruelty, violence, and savagery quite unparalleled in the wars of the nations of India; worse than the cruelties perpetrated by the Six Nations and all the Red Indians on the continent of America. Let us tell them that by their conduct to men, to women, and to children—by their cruelties to a defenceless population—not in maintaining long-established rights, or a recognised claim to dominion, but to uphold the vilest and most brutal crime that ever was perpetrated by nation against nation—they are now disgracing themselves in the eyes of the world and violating every precept and principle of Christianity. Let us, on the other hand, tell the Poles that they have our deep and heartfelt sympathy; that they have our fullest admi-

ration; that we shall watch them with love and attention, and do everything we can to excite the sympathy of Europe and rouse the moral feelings of all mankind in their behalf."

Mr. Jones seconded the address, and proposed that it should be written on vellum, signed by the chairman, and transmitted to Langiewicz, the present Dictator of Poland.

Both resolution and address were then put to the meeting by the chairman, and were carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to the Lord Mayor for granting the use of the hall, having been proposed and seconded,

Sir Harry Verney, in supporting the resolution, read the following letter from Miss Nightingale:—

"If there is a fund for the sick and wounded in the Polish insurrection would you kindly pay this little sum into it (£10). It makes my heart burn to hear of that noble nation struggling again for freedom. God prosper her, bless her efforts, and bring her safely to port!"

Mr. Alderman Dakin (who had taken the chair on Alderman Lawrence having to leave on urgent business) returned thanks, after which three cheers were given for Langiewicz and the Polish cause, and three cheers for Miss Nightingale. The meeting then separated.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOT INSTITUTION.—The annual general meeting of the friends and supporters of this institution was held on Tuesday, at the London Tavern—the Right Hon. Lord Lovaine, M.P., P.C., in the chair. The meeting was influentially and numerously attended. There were present, amongst others, Stephen Cave, Esq., M.P.; Admiral Sir G. Sartorius, Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P.; Captain Tarleton, R.N., C.B., Deputy Controller-General of the Coast Guard; Rev. O. Ainslie, M.A.; Admiral Washington, F.R.S., Hydrographer of the Admiralty; William Jackson, Esq., Captain Halsell, R.N.; Henry Paul, Esq., M.P.; Thomas Page, Esq., C.E.; and many others. The chairman expressed the pleasure he felt in taking the chair at the annual meeting of so valuable an institution as the National Life-boat Society. It was a society whose philanthropic objects came home to the heart of every Englishman. The clear and important facts which were detailed in its annual report could not fail to elicit the admiration of every one. After some further appropriate remarks, his Lordship called on Richard Lewis, Esq., secretary of the institution, to read the annual report. The report began by expressing the deep sense of the committee of management of the society of the confidence which had been placed in them by the British public, as evinced by the continual liberal support extended to it. The report referred to the gratifying fact that the Royal National Life-boat Institution had received a liberal contribution from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who had become a vice-patron of the society—a post which for twelve years had been worthily occupied by the late lamented Prince Consort. During the past year the institution had placed fourteen new life-boats on the coast, and other life-boats were in course of construction for Bude Haven, Swansea, and other places. Transporting carriages and substantial bathouses had been provided for all the life-boats. Six life-boats have also been built for the Portuguese Government by the Messrs. Forrest, on the institution's plan, and one for the Colonial Government of New Zealand. The institution had now 124 life-boats on the coasts of the United Kingdom. The life-boats of the society during the year 1862 had saved 358 persons from wrecked ships, nearly all under circumstances of imminent peril, when no other description of boat could have performed the service. For these services the institution had granted rewards amounting to £915 18s. 1d. On these and quarterly expenditures the life-boats had been manned by upwards of 6000 persons, and happily, with one single exception, without loss of life. Taking into account a considerable series of years, the average number of shipwrecks on our coasts annually is 1000, and the average loss of life therefrom amounts to 800 persons. The gales of the past year were unusually heavy, and the result was that the number of shipwrecks was 1490, accompanied by a loss of 644 lives. During the past year 4081 lives had been saved from shipwreck on our coasts. When a disaster took place in British waters it generally happened that either a ship or a smack was fortunately at hand to render assistance to the crews of the distressed vessels. Such help was seldom attended with any very great danger. But the great value of the services rendered by life-boats could only be appreciated by considering that they were mostly performed on occasions when no other craft could be launched from the shore with safety. The total number of persons saved from shipwreck from the establishment of the institution in 1824 to the end of the year 1862, either by its life-boats, or by special exertions, for which it has granted rewards, is 18,854. During the past year 13 silver medals, 14 votes of thanks inscribed on vellum, and £1125 8s. 1d. had been granted by the institution for saving the lives of 574 persons by life-boats, shore-boats, and other means, on the coasts and outlying banks of the United Kingdom. Since the formation of the institution it had expended on life-boat establishments £67,780, and had voted 82 gold and 718 silver medals for saving life, besides pecuniary awards; amounting together to £16,478. The committee expressed their deep acknowledgments to the Board of Trade, the Coast Guard, the local committees, and the railway and steam-packet companies, for their continued valuable and zealous co-operation. The total receipts of the institution during the year 1862 amounted to £14,825 5s. 1d. Of that sum no less than £2715 was given by benevolent individuals to defray the cost of ten life-boats. The expenditure of the institution during the same period was £12,177 17s. 2d., of which sum £5269 6s. was expended on additional life-boats, transporting-carriages, bath-houses, and necessary gear; £3977 0s. 4d. on the necessary expenses of repairs, painting, refitting, and inspection; £1094 6s. 1d. in rewards for services to shipwrecked crews; and £2242 9s. 10d. for coastguards' salaries and the quarterly practices of the boats' crews. The institution had incurred further liabilities, amounting to £3100 6s., for various life-boat establishments. No society had a stronger claim for general sympathy and support than the National Life-boat Institution, whose life-boats, under Divine Providence, had so often preserved to an otherwise desolate home a husband, father, or brother. The committee therefore appealed with confidence to the country at large to assist them to maintain in a state of thorough efficiency the 124 life-boat establishments of the institution. The report having been moved and unanimously adopted, resolutions in furtherance of the objects of the institution were proposed and seconded by Stephen Cave, Esq., M.P.; Rev. George Ainslie, M.A.; Montague Gore, Esq.; Henry Paul, Esq., M.P.; Admiral Sir George Sartorius; Admiral M. Hardy; Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P.; Admiral Washington, F.R.S., V.P.; J. E. Johnson, Esq.; and J. H. Wilson, Esq. Various other resolutions pledging the meeting to renewed exertions on behalf of this truly benevolent and national institution having been passed, and the usual complimentary vote of thanks having been given to the chairman, and the same having been duly acknowledged, the proceedings, which were of a very interesting character, terminated.

ENGLISH POLICE OFFICERS IN WARSAW.—The correspondence relative to the sending English police officers to Warsaw, moved for by Mr. Hennessy, was published on Saturday, and fully bears out the representations made by Sir George Grey in the debate in the House of Commons. The second of these communications is a letter from Baron Brunnov to Sir George Grey, in which he says that "the Grand Duke Constantine, during his former stay in this country, has been particularly impressed with the beneficial influence which your police regulations exercise for the maintenance of good order, legality, and public security. His Imperial Highness is desirous of establishing a similar institution in the kingdom of Poland, whose welfare is intrusted now to his care by his Majesty the Emperor. The Grand Duke is the more anxious to introduce a useful reform into this branch of the public service, as such a reform may enable him to put an end as soon as possible to the now existing martial law, and to replace the country under the rule of a regular civil administration. For this purpose the Grand Duke has thought it highly important to secure for a very short time (say two months) the presence at Warsaw of an intelligent and active police officer, who might communicate to the authorities there his practical views on the subject of the organisation of this branch of public service on a similar footing as is in this country." In conclusion, Baron Brunnov requests that Sir Richard Mayne might be allowed to be placed in communication with a gentleman to whose care the Grand Duke had intrusted the object in question. Sir R. Mayne, in a letter to Sir G. Grey, dated March 11, states that the instructions given to the two police officers sent to Warsaw in August last were verbal, to the following effect: That they were to take with them all the printed forms and reports showing the organisation of the metropolitan police, and the mode of carrying on their duties; and that they should give all the information in their knowledge on those subjects to the persons with whom they should be put in communication. A report from Messrs. Walker and Whicher, dated Warsaw, Sept. 8, is appended, in which they state that they are in daily communication with the authorities, but that no change has been made in the existing police system at present; adding that the Government was in constant apprehension of a repetition of the attempts at assassination. Their mission had been kept entirely secret, except to the three gentlemen they were in communication with. Letters from Colonel White and Acting-Consul White, relative to the modifications recently introduced in the operation of martial law in Poland, are included in the correspondence.

FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION.—One man was killed, and two others seriously injured, by the explosion of one of the boilers at the works of Mr. Joseph Newnham, Victoria Mill, Batley Carr, near Leeds, on Monday morning last. The calamity took place at breakfast time, and the man killed was a weaver for another employer, who had been eating his morning meal in the boiler-house. Some of his bones were broken and his body much crushed, the boiler-house and dig-house having been totally destroyed. In the eyecase an Irishman was found buried alive, and his injuries required his immediate removal to the Leeds Infirmary, where he lies in a precarious state. Another of the persons injured was leaving the premises when some stones and timber knocked him down, and some time elapsed before he was extricated. The force of the explosion is described as terrific, some of the water of the boiler being projected a hundred yards, and many windows broken and the roof injured of an adjacent mill.

Mr. THOMAS JULL, aged thirty-five, a confidential clerk in a City mercantile establishment, shot himself in the head with a pocket-pistol, in Kensington Gardens, on Saturday morning last. Troubles arising from deceased's irregular habits are believed to have caused the rash act.

OUR FEUILLETON.

A RUSSIAN HOUSEHOLD OF THE OLDEN TIME

(Continued from page 187.)

The rooms of the house occupied by our worthy couple Athanasius Ivanowitch and Pulcheria Ivanovna were small and low, as is commonly the case in these houses of a past age, and, to make matters still worse, a large stove took up nearly a third of the space in each apartment. The house was, of course, extremely well warmed, but then our old friends were uncommonly fond of heat. All the stove doors opened into the antechamber, which was constantly well supplied with straw, the Russian substitute for firewood. The clear, sparkling straw fire rendered this antechamber very agreeable in the winter evenings to some impetuous youth, who would be to clapping his hands by way of bringing life into them, after having run miles through the cold air, on the track of some village maiden. The walls of the best room were adorned with paintings and prints in small old-fashioned frames. I am convinced that the owners of them had themselves long since forgotten what they were meant to represent, and would hardly have missed them had they been taken away. There were, among others, two large portraits in oil; the one represented an Archbishop, the other Peter III. Among the prints was a Duchess of La Vallière, whose beauties the flies had completely disfigured. Around the windows and above the doors little prints had been stuck, which were now grown almost black. These were rarely examined, as they were generally taken for stains on the wall. The floors of all the rooms were of glazed tiles, kept so thoroughly clean that no polished parquet in a nobleman's salon, carelessly swept by some drowsy livery servant, could have borne comparison with them. Pulcheria Ivanovna's own room was entirely filled up with trunks, boxes, and small cases. A quantity of bags filled with flower-seeds, water-melons, and cucumbers, were hung up against the walls. All the interstices, all the odd corners, formed by the piled-up chests and trunks, were packed full of balls of worsted, remnants of stuffs, and scraps of flossy more than half a century old. Pulcheria Ivanovna was a great hoarder; she picked up everything, without thinking for a moment what use she could possibly make of it. But the most remarkable thing about the house was the creaking of the doors. From earliest dawn they creaked, from the top to the bottom of the house. I cannot understand why the doors should have creaked in that manner. Was it because their hinges were rusty, or had the carpenters constructed within them some secret piece of mechanism? I know not; but stranger than all was the fact that every door had its own peculiar creaking tone. The bedroom-door had a sharp piercing note; the dining-room, a low hoarse one. As to that of the antechamber, it gave forth a tremulous and plaintive sound which, when carefully listened to, seemed to say, "I am cold, I am cold; it freezes!"

The chairs in this old household were all of the antique, massive style, high backed, with hard seats, turned arms and legs, and without colouring or varnish. They were not even stuffed, and resembled the chairs used in certain ceremonies by our Archbishops. Small tables were placed in the corners of the room; square tables before the sofa and before the looking-glass, with its frame of gilt foliage; a carpet on which were represented birds resembling flowers, and flowers resembling birds. Such was the furniture of the humble dwelling inhabited by this old couple. The servants' room was always full of maidens, young and old, dressed in striped gowns. Pulcheria Ivanovna now and then gave them some trifling needlework to do, or employed them in picking fruit; the greater number of them, however, slept away their time in the kitchen. Pulcheria Ivanovna thought it necessary to keep them well under lock and key, and to be very strict with respect to their morals.

In summer time an enormous number of flies buzzed incessantly about the window frames; and amid their confused din were occasionally heard the deep-toned hum of a drone, or the shrill hiss of a wasp. But no sooner did the lights appear than this crowd of insects went to sleep, and covered the ceiling as with a thick black cloud.

Athanasius Ivanowitch troubled himself very little with the affairs of his farm. He would, however, sometimes go and see after his mowers or reapers in the fields, and stand watching them while at work with attentive curiosity. All the weight of the domestic administration fell upon Pulcheria Ivanovna. This consisted chiefly in perpetually opening and shutting the storeroom door, and in cooking, drying, and preserving all sorts of fruits and vegetables. Her establishment resembled a chemist's laboratory. A fire was always burning under one of the apple-trees in the garden, and on an iron tripod was a bright red copper stewpan, in which jellies, preserves, or sweetmeats of sugar or honey, were incessantly simmering. Under another tree a coachman would be busy distilling brandy from peach leaves, mulberry flowers and cherry kernels. At the conclusion of the operation he could hardly wag his tongue, or at all events talked such arrant gibberish, that Pulcheria Ivanovna, not being able to understand a word of what he said, would pack him off to sleep in the kitchen. Such an immense quantity of provisions were cooked, dried, pickled, and preserved, that both storerooms and cellars were filled to overflowing. Pulcheria Ivanovna having a mania for preparing a far larger store of everything than necessity demanded. But this inconvenience was remedied by the maids, who managed to devour the greater part of the dainties; and, whenever admitted to the storeroom, used to gorge to that extent that they did nothing but moan and complain of indigestion for the remainder of the day. Pulcheria Ivanovna was not competent to superintend the details of land-management and farming; the bailiff, in league with the under-bailiff, plundered her without mercy. They used to cut down the master's wood just as if it were their own property, and manufactured numbers of sledges, which they sent off to be sold at a neighbouring fair; they also sold all the fine oak-trees to the carpenters of the neighbourhood. Once only did Pulcheria Ivanovna express a wish to inspect her woods. A droschky was got ready for her, and she took her seat enveloped in enormous leather aprons, but as soon as the coachman opened his lips to start the old horses, which had formerly served in the militia, the vehicle began to creak and fill the air with such discordant, strange sounds, that anyone a couple of versts distant could tell that the lady was going a journey. Pulcheria Ivanovna could not help noticing the havoc that had been going on among her woods, and the disappearance of oak-trees which in her youth she had known as being upwards of a hundred years old.

"How is it, Mitchipoor," she said to the bailiff, who accompanied her, "how is it that the oaks are so thin? Take care that your hairs do not become as thin."

"How is it they are so thinned?" replied the steward; "why, they have disappeared, entirely disappeared; a thunderbolt has fallen on them; the worms have eaten them; in short, they vanished, madam, they vanished."

Pulcheria Ivanovna was completely satisfied with this answer, and, having returned home, merely gave the order for double watch to be kept over the Spanish cherry-trees and the winter pear-trees, and these worthy overseers, the bailiff and the under-bailiff, soon afterwards discovered that it was quite useless to have all the flour carried to their master's granary, and that half would do just as well as the whole. They even ended by cheating this half from the damp or spoiled flour which they could not sell at the fair. But, despite the barefaced cheating of these two rogues—despite the voracity of all the dependants of the household, from the house-keeper down to the pigs who swallowed up bushels of plums and apples, shaking the trees with their snouts and bringing down showers of fruit—in spite of the pillaging of swallows and ravens, and the presents which the people of the route made to their relations and acquaintances, and their peculations of linen and coarse cloths, which they sold that they might indulge themselves in the public-houses; in spite of all these, this fertile land produced everything in such abundance, and Athanasius Ivanowitch and Pulcheria Ivanovna had so few wants

that all these depredations combined did not interfere with their ordinary comforts.

The good old couple, according to the custom of former times, were rather fond of the pleasures of the table. So soon as the day dawned (they always rose very early)—so soon as the doors began their discordant concert—they sat them down to table and partook of their coffee. After this first meal Athanasius Ivanowitch would take a turn under the portico, and, holding up his handkerchief like a whip, would cry out,

"Kick! kick! Be off, geese; be off from here."

He usually met the bailiff in the middle of the court, and would enter into conversation with him, and question him minutely as to the work of the farm, make certain remarks relative thereto, or give him orders in so precise a manner that one could not but feel surprised at his profound knowledge of rural economy, and would never have supposed it possible for the sharpest rogue to have cheated so clear-sighted a master. But the bailiff was an old fox, accustomed to stand firm, who knew very well how to answer, and, still better, how to act. Athanasius Ivanowitch would then return to his apartment, exclaiming, as he caught sight of Pulcheria Ivanovna,

"It's about time to eat a mouthful; don't you think so, Pulcheria Ivanovna?"

"But, Athanasius Ivanowitch, what could we eat now, unless, indeed, it were those little lard-pies, or the poppy-seed pies, or, perhaps, the pickled mushrooms?"

"Well, let's have the mushrooms or the little pies," Athanasius Ivanowitch would reply, and immediately the table would be covered with little pies and mushrooms.

An hour before dinner Athanasius Ivanowitch would breakfast again, and take a glass of brandy out of an old silver cup, and would then take off the taste of the brandy by swallowing a few mushrooms, some little dried fish, and other trifles. They dined at twelve. Besides the dishes and sauceboats, the table would be loaded with a heap of little pots hermetically closed, so that the savoury viands of antiquity might lose nothing by evaporation. At table the conversation usually turned upon subjects intimately connected with the grand affair of the moment—the dinner.

"It appears to me," Athanasius Ivanowitch would say, "that this porridge is rather burnt. What do you say, Pulcheria Ivanovna?"

"I think not, Athanasius Ivanowitch; eat a little more butter with it, and it won't taste burnt; and pour over all some of that mushroom-sauce."

"Very good," replied Athanasius Ivanowitch, handing her his plate, "let us see what it will be like then."

After dinner Athanasius Ivanowitch retired to rest for about an hour. Then Pulcheria Ivanovna would bring in a water-melon cut it into slices, and say,

"Just taste, Athanasius Ivanowitch, how good this melon is!"

"Don't trust too much, Pulcheria Ivanovna, to its fine red colour," Athanasius Ivanowitch would reply, helping himself to a large slice of it; "some of these red ones are good for nothing."

However, the melon soon disappeared; then Athanasius Ivanowitch would eat a few pears, and go and take a turn in the garden with Pulcheria Ivanovna. Once more within doors, the good lady would set about her household affairs, while her husband, seated beneath the shade of a balcony which looked into the yard, would amuse himself by watching how the door of the storeroom kept alternately revealing and hiding the inside of this apartment, and how the maids, pushing one another about, brought and then carried away again a heap of old rubbish that was thrown anyhow into trunks, baskets, or barrels.

When he tired of this amusement, he would send for Pulcheria Ivanovna, or go and look for her himself, and say to her,

"What would be the best thing to eat, Pulcheria Ivanovna?"

"Ah! what indeed," she would reply, "unless I send for those currant cakes that I kept on purpose for you?"

"Well, then, let us have the currant cakes," Athanasius Ivanowitch would say.

"Perhaps you would prefer a little trissel?"

"That would not be amiss, Pulcheria Ivanovna."

Whereupon they would send for the cakes and the trissel, which disappeared together. Before supper time Athanasius Ivanowitch used to fortify himself with another small collation. At half-past nine supper was served up. Immediately this was over they retired to rest, and the most perfect silence reigned in this little spot of earth. The room in which Pulcheria Ivanovna slept was so warm that few persons could have remained in it for more than an hour or two at most; but Athanasius Ivanowitch, by way of being warmer still, slept upon a Russian stove, the temperature of which was so high sometimes that it obliged him to get up in the middle of the night and walk about the room. While thus engaged he used frequently to utter a little moaning sound.

"Why do you moan?" Pulcheria Ivanovna would ask him.

"Goodness knows!" he would answer; "but it seems to me that I have a slight pain in my inside."

"Would you like to have anything to eat, Athanasius Ivanowitch?"

"I do not know whether that would be good for me, Pulcheria Ivanovna. Still, what could one eat?"

"Clotted cream and stewed pears!"

"Well, let us try some," Athanasius Ivanowitch would say.

A servant half asleep used to go and rummage the cupboard, Athanasius Ivanowitch would eat a plateful, and then usually remark,

"It seems to me that I feel rather better."

These good people delighted me, especially when they received visitors. Then everything in their establishment wore a changed aspect; they no longer lived but in their guests; they sent for everything of the best; they eagerly offered all the products of their grounds; and what I found most touching was that, with all this eagerness, there was not a particle of affectation. The satisfaction they experienced in overwhelming you with kind offers was so clearly expressed on their countenances that it was almost impossible to refuse their hospitality. No visitor could obtain permission to leave on the same day that he came. It was absolutely necessary that he should pass the night with them.

"How can you think of setting out so late when you have so far to go?" Pulcheria Ivanovna would say on such occasions; the visitors generally residing some three or four versts off.

"You certainly must not go," Athanasius would add; "one can never answer for what may happen. You might be attacked by thieves, or might meet with other bad people."

"Heaven preserve us from thieves!" Pulcheria Ivanovna would say. "Why speak of such things at night, when it is dark? It is not of thieves that one need be afraid; but the weather is gloomy, and it is not a pleasant time for travelling. And then your coachman. I know your coachman; he is such a little fellow, and so weak; and I am sure that he has been drinking more than he ought, and is asleep in a corner." In short, the visitor was obliged to remain. But it must be owned that an evening spent in a warm, snug little room, which engendered rather spontaneously inclined conversation, combined with the very agreeable odour of the supper table, amply compensated the traveller for his complaisance. I fancy I see Athanasius Ivanowitch half doubled up in his chair, listening with that eternal smile upon his lips to the conversation of his guest, not only with attention, but with positive enjoyment. I liked also to contemplate Pulcheria Ivanovna when she presided a visitor to stay to breakfast.

"Here," she used to say, taking the steppie out of one decanter, "here is brandy prepared with pepper-mint. It is excellent for pains in the back. And here is another one with gentian. This last is very efficacious for stings in the ears and pimples on the face. Here is another made with peach-kernels. Just try, a small glass. What a nice smell! It has! If any one, on getting out of bed in the morning, knocks his head against the corner of a cupboard and raises a bump on it, he has only to drink a small glass of this before dinner and it will disappear, and he will be as if he had had no blow whatever."

In this way she went on recommending her several liquors, each being endowed with some peculiar healing quality. After having fortified her guest with these various drinks, she would lead him to a table loaded with an infinite number of small plates.

"Here are mushrooms dressed with pepper, others with cloves, others with filberts; a Turkish woman taught me how to pickle them, in the time of the Turkish prisoners. She really was an excellent woman, and one could not perceive in the least that she was of the Turkish religion. She did everything just as we did, only she abstained from eating pork, saying that her laws forbade it. Here are mushrooms dressed with cossis-leaves, and some with muscadine. Here are others that I have pickled for the first time; I don't know whether they will be good. Father Ivan taught me to do them. Here are some little cheese-pies, and here are some cabbage ones, and some black corn ones, that Athanasius Ivanowitch likes extremely."

"Yes," chimed in Athanasius Ivanowitch, "I like them very much; they are tender and rather tart."

Generally speaking, Pulcheria Ivanovna was in excellent humour when she had any one in her house. I was very fond of staying on a visit with her; and though I was always obliged to eat till I brought on attack on attack of indigestion, I always returned to her with pleasure.

It must be owned, however, that there is something in the air of Little Russia which has the faculty of aiding and assisting the organs of digestion; for if any one in other parts of the world were to think of eating anything like the quantity one did there, he would soon be laid in his coffin instead of in his bed.

My narrative, alas! is drawing near to a melancholy event, which completely changed the habits and ways of life of this tranquil community. It will seem extraordinary that so trivial a matter should have brought it about; but in the wayward arrangements of sublimity affairs how often it happens that, from the slightest causes, the greatest events spring, and the vastest enterprises terminate in most insignificant results. A conqueror assembles all the forces of his empire, makes war for several years, his Generals cover themselves with glory, and the whole ends in the acquisition of a small scrap of land where one cannot even grow turnips! On the other hand, two sausage-makers fight for some mere trifle, and their quarrel sets villages, towns, and States all in a blaze. But we will spare these reflections; they are misplaced here, and I do not like reflections that are uncalled for.

Pulcheria Ivanovna had a little tabby cat which was almost always at her feet, coiled up in a little ball. She loved to stroke it and to tickle its neck. One could hardly say that Pulcheria Ivanovna really loved this cat, but she had become attached to it from the habit of constantly having it by her. Athanasius Ivanowitch often rallied her on this affection.

"I can't think, Pulcheria Ivanovna," he would say, "what you see in this cat. What's the use of it? If you had a dog, now, that would be another affair. A dog can go out with one to hunt or shoot; but a cat—pshaw!"

"Hold your peace, Athanasius Ivanowitch; you do nothing but chatter. A dog is not clean; a dog is always breaking some thing; but a cat is a quiet, peaceful creature that hurts no one."

The fact was Athanasius Ivanowitch cared for neither the dog nor the cat; he only said what he did to tease his wife a little.

Beyond the garden lay an extensive wood, which the enterprising bailiff had spared because the noise of the axe would probably have been heard by Pulcheria Ivanovna. This wood was full of wild cats, ferocious animals, which, living entirely by plunder and pillage, jumped boldly into the kitchen window when the cook's back was turned, and carried off some dainty; made subterranean passages to the cellar, where the bacon was hung to dry, and devoured even the little sparrows in their nests. These cats came smelling about for a long time after Pulcheria Ivanovna's good little cat, and ended by decoying away the poor little thing, as a troop of soldiers seduce some foolish village maiden. As soon as Pulcheria Ivanovna became aware of the disappearance of her cat, she instituted a strict search in every quarter, but in vain. Three days elapsed: the good lady regretted her loss, but finally ended by forgetting it. One day, after having inspected her kitchen-garden, as she was returning to the house with a load of green cucumbers that she had gathered with her own hand for Athanasius Ivanowitch, her ear was struck by a pitiful mew. Without exactly thinking of what she was doing, she mechanically exclaimed "Puss, puss!" and the poor little tabby came out from among the bushes, half dead and reduced to a perfect skeleton. It was easy to see that for several days it had eaten nothing. Pulcheria Ivanovna continued to call it, but the cat remained still, not daring to draw near, so wild had it become since its flight from home. The old lady walked on, still calling to the cat, which followed with a timid step as far as the hedge; and then, recognising some well-known haunts, after some slight show of hesitation, ventured to enter a room.

Pulcheria Ivanovna called for meat and milk, sat down beside her favourite, and was delighted with the voracity it displayed. Pulcheria Ivanovna put out her hand to caress it, but the ungrateful creature, already accustomed, as it seemed, to the company of wild cats, and impressed with the romantic idea that poverty and love are better than riches, sprung out of the window, and none of the people of the house could manage to catch it again.

The old lady fell into a reverie.

"It is my death-messenger who has come for me," she said to herself; and nothing could wean her from this mournful thought. She wasted the entire day. Vainly did Athanasius Ivanowitch try his usual jokes, and ask why she was so pensive. Pulcheria Ivanovna either answered not at all or answered in a way that failed to tranquillise Athanasius Ivanowitch.

On the very next day she appeared considerably paler and thinner.

"What ails you, Pulcheria Ivanovna? Are you not ill?"

"No, I am not ill, Athanasius Ivanowitch; but there is something which I must reveal to you. I feel that I shall die this summer; my death angel has already been to fetch me."

The lips of Athanasius Ivanowitch contracted painfully. He tried to smother the sad presentiment that rose within him, and said with a smile,

"Heaven only knows what you are talking about, Pulcheria Ivanovna. I think most likely that, instead of the decoction you generally drink, you have been drinking a little peach brandy."

"No, Athanasius Ivanowitch, I have drunk no brandy," said Pulcheria Ivanovna, mournfully. And Athanasius Ivanowitch felt a pang of remorse for having laughed at his wife. He looked at her in silence, and a tear glistened on his eyelid.

"I pray you, Athanasius Ivanowitch," she said to him, "to see to the fulfilment of my will. When I am dead, have me buried as near the centre of the church as possible; and bid them put on me my grey dress—you know the one I mean—the one with the brown flowers. Don't let me be dressed out in the satin with red stripes; a dead woman no longer requires any dress. The satin dress may still be useful to you to make a best dressing-gown out of it to receive your visitors to."

"God knows what you are saying, Pulcheria Ivanovna," replied Athanasius Ivanowitch. "God knows when death will come. You are really beginning to frighten me by saying such things."

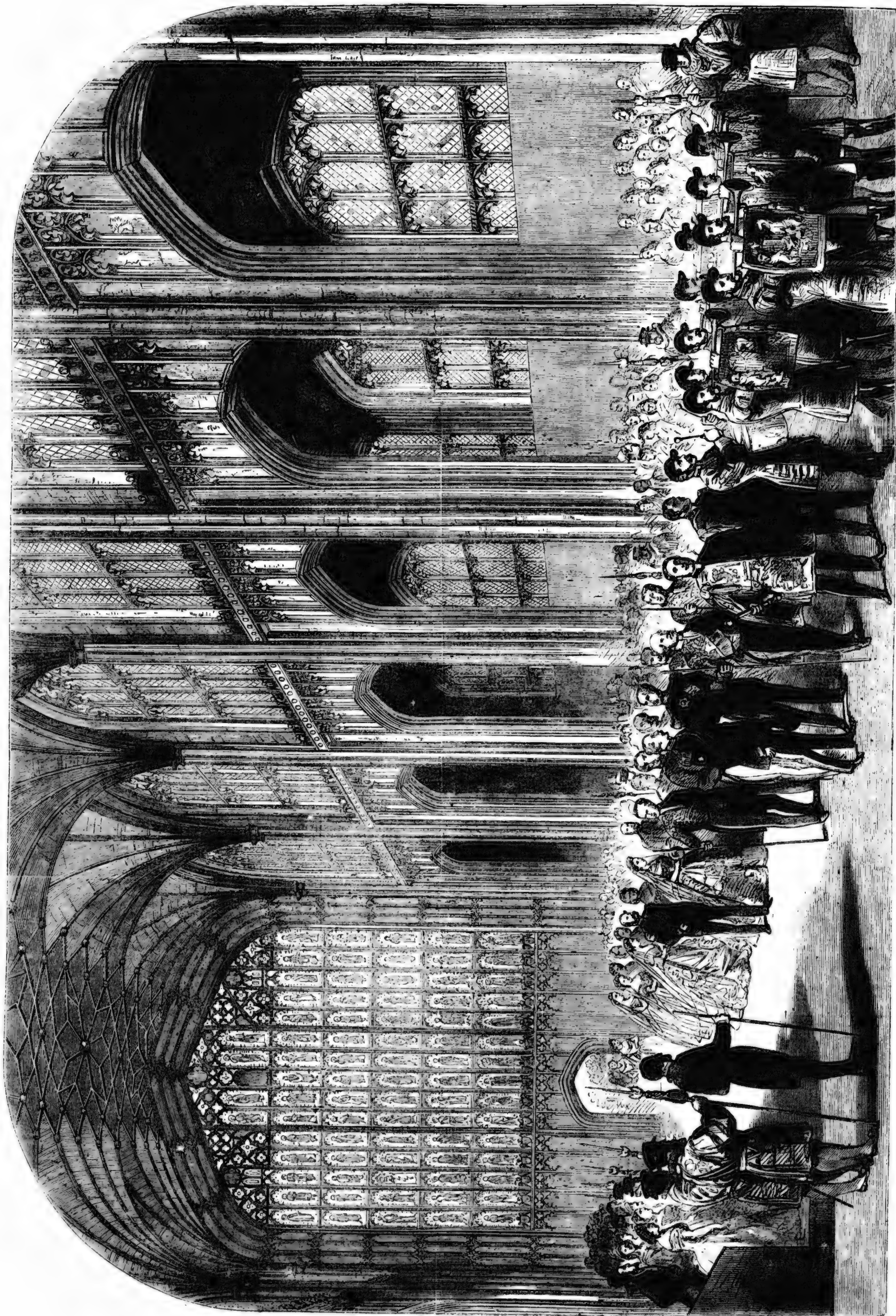
"Indeed, Athanasius Ivanowitch, I know perfectly well that I shall die soon. But do not grieve; I am old, I have lived long enough; and you are old, too. We shall soon meet again in the next world."

And Athanasius Ivanowitch began to weep like a child.

"Do not weep, Athanasius Ivanowitch; it is a sin. Do not sin, and anger God by your sorrow. I do not regret life; I regret but one thing (and I regretted herself by a sigh)—I regret not knowing anyone to whom I can confide you. Who will take care of you when I am gone? You are like a young child; these also were once like a child to love you." As she said this a look of such deep and tender pity was expressed on her countenance that to one at that moment could have looked at her unmoved.

"Listen to me, Sashka," said she, addressing the house-keeper, whom she had sent for on purpose. "When I am dead, bid them put your master as over the apple of your eye—near your own heart. See that he has only such dishes as he likes; that his room and his clothes are always clean. When any visitors come dress him out properly, so that he may not go and receive them in an old dressing-gown, for he begins hardly to know festive days from others. Never lose sight of him, Sashka, and I will pray for you in the next world, and God will reward you. Do not forget what I am

* Of course the creaking cry of the door resembled these words in Russian.



THE BRIDE'S PROCESSION PASSING ALONG THE NAVE OF ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL.



DEPARTURE OF THE BRIDAL PAIR FROM WINDSOR CASTLE EN ROUTE TO OXFORD.

saying to you, Soodoka. You are already advanced in years; you have not long to live; do not burden your soul with any other sin. But if you do not take good care of him you will have no happiness in this world. I myself will pray God that you may not come to a good end; you will be unhappy, and your children will be unhappy, and the blessing of God will not rest on any of your family."

Poor old soul, she neither thought of the solemn moment she was approaching, nor of her salvation, nor of her future existence; she thought of nothing but the poor companion of her pilgrimage through life, whom she should leave behind, as it were, orphaned. She arranged all her affairs with the greatest precision, in such a manner that Athanasius Ivanowitch should not feel her absence. Her conviction that her end was fast approaching was so strong, and her spirit was so thoroughly disposed to meet it, that in a few days she found herself obliged to take to her bed, when her appetite completely failed her. Athanasius Ivanowitch was all attention to her, and never left her bedside.

"Can you not eat anything, Pulcheria Ivanovna?" he kept exclaiming, with the most painful anxiety.

But Pulcheria Ivanovna replied not. At length, one day, after a long illness, Pulcheria Ivanovna raised herself feebly in her bed, moved her lips as if trying to speak, and the last breath escaped from her feeble frame.

Athanasius Ivanowitch was annihilated. This calamity was to him so strange and unexpected that he could not weep. He looked at the dead form with a fixed and stupid gaze, as though he had not understood that it was a corpse. They laid her out, according to the usual custom, on a table; they dressed her in the gown she herself had named; they crossed her arms upon her breast, and put between her fingers a small wax taper. He looked on while all this was doing in a state of the most complete insensibility. A crowd of people filled the court, and numerous visitors came to the funeral. Long tables covered with *koutia* (the Russian funeral dish), various pasties, and flasks of brandy, were placed in front of the house. The guests talked and wept by turns, then gazed at the dead, extolled her good qualities, and glanced at Athanasius Ivanowitch, who walked through the crowd with a stupefied air. At length the body was carried away, when every one walked after it, and he among the rest. It was a brilliant, sunshiny day; the priests wore their gilded chasubles; the infants were crying in their mothers' arms; the larks were singing; and little children, in loose shirts, were playing about in the road. The coffin was placed over the grave that had been dug in the churchyard. Then Athanasius Ivanowitch was requested to approach the dead and to embrace her for the last time. He drew near and kissed the corpse, and tears unconsciously started to his eyes. The coffin was lowered, the priest took a spade, and threw the first shovelful of earth on to it; the deacon and his assistants began to sing the *Vechnoia Pamati* (Eternal Memory) in a low drawing tone, which melted away into the distance beneath the pale cloudless sky. The gravediggers seized their spades, and the grave was soon filled up. Athanasius Ivanowitch now approached. Every one made way for him, for every one was anxious to know what he intended doing. He raised his eyes, cast a bewildered glance around, and exclaimed, "So you have buried her, and why?" Here he paused, for he could not finish his speech.

But when he returned home, when he saw that the sitting-room was empty, that they had even carried away the chair on which Pulcheria Ivanovna had been accustomed to sit, he began to weep bitterly, and the tears flowed fast from his dim eyes.

Athanasius Ivanowitch did not live long after the death of his partner. The particular circumstances which attended his death bore a great resemblance to those of Pulcheria Ivanovna. One day Athanasius Ivanowitch was walking slowly in his garden, with his usual carelessness of everything around, and without a single fancy in his head, when he suddenly heard some one exclaim behind him, in a clear voice,

"Athanasius Ivanowitch!"

He turned quickly round: no one was there. He looked everywhere, but in vain; he saw nothing. The day was calm and fine—the sun was shining brightly. He reflected an instant, his face brightened up, and he said to himself,

"It is Pulcheria Ivanovna who calls me."

Has it ever happened to you, dear reader, to have heard a voice call you by your name? The country people of Southern Russia say that it is some soul languishing with the desire of seeing once more the person whom it thus addresses by name, and that death infallibly follows such a summons.

Athanasius Ivanowitch was possessed with the idea that Pulcheria Ivanovna had called him, and he submitted to his fate like a docile child. He began to grow gradually thin, to cough, and melted away, in short, like a wax taper, which becomes extinguished at length when there is nothing left to feed its flickering light. "Let me be buried near Pulcheria Ivanovna," were his last words. His wish was fulfilled. There were but few visitors at his funeral, but many peasants and poor people. The small manse-house was soon emptied of its contents. The speculating steward carried away everything that the housekeeper had not had time to make off with. Some time afterwards the heir, a distant relation, who held the rank of Lieutenant in the army, and was a great reformer, arrived, no one knew whence. He immediately perceived that the household affairs were in a state of disorder, and resolved to effect an entire change in all this, and to introduce something like discipline in the management of the estate. He began by purchasing half a dozen fine English scythes; had a number painted on every peasant's house, and, in short, succeeded so well that in six months' time his property was reacquainted. The wise administration, confined to a retired official, extended in a very short space of time even the eggs and the fowls. The cottages, which were already in a shabby condition, fell entirely into ruins. The peasants got accustomed to drinking, and nearly the whole of them ran away. The proprietor himself, who, it must be owned, lived on very good terms with his inspectors, and drank punch in their company, very rarely came to look after his village, and then only for a short time. At the present moment he frequents all the fairs of Little Russia, inquires minutely into the price of every kind of wholesale merchandise, such as corn, tallow, hemp, hides, &c.; but he buys only trifles, such, for instance, as bodkins, for cleaning his pipe with, and rarely expends more than a rouble at a time.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.—France and Italy are still, it appears, carrying on a vague and irregular diplomatic correspondence on the Roman question, in continuation of that which took place and attracted much attention when the present Turin Ministry first entered upon office. The *Europe*, of Frankfurt, publishes the analysis of a despatch sent by Count Pasolini to the Chevalier Nigra, dated the 19th of February, and which was to be read to M. Drouyn de Lhuys. M. Pasolini states that M. de Sartiges, the French Minister at Turin, had not seized very exactly the sense of the conversation which took place between them. The Italian Government, far from rejecting by a *non possumus* the French propositions, was ready to discuss them with care; but it could not admit any compromise respecting principles consecrated alike by the Government, the Parliament, and the nation. The meaning of this is simply that the Italian Government will enter into no terms which have not for basis the withdrawal of the French troops from Rome, but does not think it would be polite to refuse entering into any terms at all, although conscious that at present the two announcements mean very much the same thing.

COLLISION ON THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—On Monday night a collision took place, which fortunately did not terminate fatally, but which caused serious injury to a number of persons. The accident occurred on the Midland line, at Sawley junction, half way between Nottingham and Derby. Between eight and nine a coal-train between Derby and Leicester passed down near Sawley. It was followed by the 8.30 train from Derby to Nottingham, which came to a stand behind the coal-train. Arrangements were instantly made for the passenger traffic to be worked on the down, instead of the up, line. Soon afterwards the 8.30 train backed from the place at which the stoppage occurred to Draycott station, and the pilot engine (who was on the engine) mistook a white light from the engine of the passenger-train from Derby to Nottingham as a signal from the passenger-train to advance and that all was right. The consequence was that the two trains dashed into each other violently. A score of indescribable confusion took place. None of the carriages were knocked off the line, but it was ascertained there were about ten persons more or less seriously injured, among whom were the following:—Mr. Carter, auctioneer; Mr. Jones, grocer; Mr. Bennett, Miss Simms, Mr. Carr, and Mr. Caporn, all of Nottingham; Mr. Isaacson, commercial traveller. After the collision the injured persons were all taken to Nottingham, where medical aid was procured. They are now progressing favourably.

WOMEN AND WEDLOCK AMONG THE OLD SCANDINAVIANS.

GREAT mistakes are accepted by the popular mind with respect to the position of women among the ancient Scandinavians and Teutons. A traveller's tale in Tacitus, and some observations of Julius Cæsar—very accurate, considering the disadvantages under which both critics lay—have been allowed to weigh against the irrefragable evidence of the sagas; and that has led to the erroneous assumption that the actual everyday life of the Northern nations was, with respect to the more intimate relations of men and women, something very different upon the surface of it from what may be observed in (say) England or Sweden. That error has been complicated with another still greater. It is supposed by inattentive persons that the English ideal of womanhood is the same as that of the ancient Scandinavians, and that all that is required, in order to the production of the amount of "social order" assumed to have existed among the latter, is that the ideal should be enforced. A grosser blunder never was made.

Let us look a little at both the points mentioned. First, as to the amount of "social order" which really existed among the ancient Scandinavians. The children of Kings were all "udal-born"—i.e., capable of inheriting, from whatever number of contemporary mothers they were born. Among the commonalty there was usually only one mistress of the household, to whom and to whose children all legal and social honour was paid; but the *menige à trois*, in one shape or another, was frequent enough, and, under certain circumstances (circumstances whose scope was much wider than with us), the child of a mere "freja" might inherit like the child of a "hus-hjæja" (house-wife). The laws against kissing were very severe. In one case, the punishment was exile; in another, a fine of three marks, which was a very large sum of money. But the law was worse than a dead letter: it was a pretence, and was, for the most part, enforced (like too many other laws) only in cases where the *eleventh commandment* had been broken and the offender was comestable. Besides, the *spirit* of these laws was by no means æsthetic; the idea was to protect the person of the woman and guard that liberty of action which her physical weakness made it possible for the man to impose. Infanticide was not uncommon among the old Scandinavians; infanticide, that is to say, after the modern pattern. Nor was it an extraordinary thing for a reckless widow, or *discoire*, or some other genteel type of the *femme libre*, to set up a caravanserai and enact the bacchantes.

It so happens that our records of the "religious" life and worship of the ancient Scandinavians are very imperfect. So little trace of it appears in the sagas that some people have inferred that religion must have occupied a very small space in their life. But the inference is not safe, because the sagas were written at a time when Odinism was in peril from "Christian" propagandism, and did not dare, perhaps, to say much about the expiring system. One thing, however, is perhaps made out—that there were no religious ceremonies attendant upon marriage. There was a wedding feast, however, which often ended, of course, in a drunken quarrel and a chopping-match with battle-axes.

There was a betrothal day, as well as a marriage day. The lover, when the former was fixed, engaged to marry his sweetheart within a year and a day, and paid the father, or guardian, a sum of money by way of bridal ransom. The latter undertook, on his part, to pay over to the husband or wife, or both, on the wedding day the marriage portion agreed upon. Marriage portion, or no marriage portion, however, the lover had to lay down the bridal ransom at the time of the betrothal.

Now, let this be noted:—If a lover broke his promise of marriage he had to forfeit the sum paid as bridal ransom. I venture, in all earnestness, to suggest the revival of this plan; let it take the place of the modern system of action for "breach of promise," which is not only—what Baron Bramwell lately called it—a folly, but an indecency and a brutality.

No doubt a good many of the readers of Mr. Mill's "Liberty" have wondered what on earth the man means by condemning English law and custom (page 188) for "the almost despotic power of husbands over wives." The same readers have, probably, thought a man of brains must be very "sponey" to write such a dedication to the memory of a mere woman as Mr. Mill has prefixed to that volume. But an ancient Scandinavian lady, if she had revisited the earth, and taken a seat in (say) St. Clement Dane's, right over the very bones of her countrymen which underlie the soil there, and accused herself, while waiting for Alexandra, by reading Mr. Mill, would have perfectly understood it all. She would think the position of an English wife an infamy and a sin. A married woman might, in her days, dispose (under ordinary circumstances) of half her landed property and all her movable property, without restriction. She might divorce herself by a word, by simply telling her husband that she declined to continue the relationship. This was unreservedly the case until "Christianity"—I put the word in commas because, of course, the faith which supplanted Odinism was a sort of Christianity which no Protestant can recognise—was established. As soon as the clergy got the matter into their hands they endeavoured to set up a distinction between full and partial divorce. The attempt was for a long time unsuccessful; but it ended in the setting up of the very anti-Scandinavian and purely ecclesiastical distinction between divorce and "judicial separation."

What makes this idea, with its implications, so opposed to the Scandinavian ideal is that the latter presupposes, not only the absolute equality in all things, and the superiority in some things, of the women over the men, but it starts from the inviolable sacredness of her person, and her right, under all circumstances, to a complete control over it. To this marriage made not the least difference. We all know how King Gunter fared:—

When I thought her love to gain, she bound me as her thrall;
Unto a nail she bore me, and hung me on the wall—

and the sympathy he got from his friend:—

Lordly to thee I plain of my shame and sorrow sore!
Then spake the hero, Siegfried, "Right sorry am I therefore!"

In case of divorce, whoever originated it, the wife retained her own property. If the divorce was judicially pronounced at the Thing, she was entitled to one-third of any property which had been held jointly by her and her husband; only, if the cause of the divorce had been an aberration of the wife's, the husband might demand back the bride-ransom.

It is needless to point out that where women were so independent in money matters there was no room whatever for the notion which enters, *sub rosa*, into the average Englishman's notion of marriage—namely, that the wife gives love and service, or is even to some extent the husband's debtor, for sustenance. In other respects I can scarcely point to myself what would be the horror of (say) Queen Sigrid the Haughty if she had followed the modern Princess into church and heard the precepts with which the marriage service concludes. I have not a doubt that she would have burnt the place down, with all the people in it. She would be quite equal to it. This Sigrid was "a woman of the greatest understanding, and," says Snorro, "too clever in many things." King Harold Grånskœpe persisting in courting her, after being repulsed, and another monarch coming at the same time to try his luck, Sigrid lost temper, and resolved to put an end to it for good and all. So she caused the two Sovereigns to be burnt in their beds and their attendants to be put to the sword. "I will make these small Kings tired of coming to court me!" said Sigrid. After that (says the historian, innocently) she was called Sigrid the Haughty. But she, in fact, very little exceeded the privilege of her sex in this charming deed.

On the whole (after every allowance is made for occasional anecdotes, which show the existence of cross-tides of sentiment, especially after the establishment of ecclesiastical law), it will be perceived that it is quite a mistake to rebuke disrespect to women by saying that we have inherited and adopted in modern England the Scandinavian ideal. The instinct of the northern races does it, hence, to some extent, our treatment of the better sex; but a theory of social life which starts from their inferiority, or, at least, subjection (a theory

* I am writing at a distance from my books; but I have it down in my memory that, in England, if the lawful heir neglects to enter for a year and a day, the filius nulli may do so, and cannot then be disclaimed.

which gives the husband that "power" which Mr. Mill calls "despotic") is not Scandinavian, whatever else it is. In truth the English ideal contains an element of Orientalism, which has reached it through the route of mediæval faith and sentiment. Great part of our social troubles come out of the conflict of two types which never will, never can, amalgamate. Of course the inferior of the two will have to give way.

I have not said anything, because it would be beyond the scope of my title, of the part taken by the Scandinavian woman in public affairs; of her inheriting representative and judicial functions, and of her presence, by her own appointed delegate, in the parliament and the jury-box. I confine myself to the explanation that it is, most distinctly, the Madonna of the Middle Ages, and not the Freya of ancient Scandinavia, whose image and superscription stamp the social status of the modern Englishwoman. W. B. RANDE.

THE LONG RECKONING.

BOOK I.—CHAPTER III.

THE Earl of Tintagel had only lately become a widower, but the deceased Countess lived in retirement during her last fifteen years. The birth of her only child was all but fatal to the young mother, if not worse than fatal, for, to human apprehension, it would have been happier for her to have died. Providence ordered otherwise. The deadly fever left her with a shattered nervous system and brain unbinged. Her health and intellect rallied partially, but she suffered from permanent depression of spirits, varied only by frenzied delusions and occasional fits of violence. Perhaps her chances of recovery were not made the most of. Perhaps her mind had not, from the first, the salutary repose which might have been found in a more affectionate husband's patient gentleness and care. Her family took that view, and, after her removal, held no communication with Lord Tintagel. Restraint had, however, been proved necessary by an attempt to destroy herself and her child; and she was finally shut up. A fruitless effort to obtain the charge of her daughter's poor little girl during infancy was the last Lady Wolverstone saw of her son-in-law. On that occasion he had the cruelty to assure the indignant grandmother that "neither she nor any other wicked old woman should poison his child's mind against him as long as he lived to prevent it."

Lady Wolverstone had a right to feel aggrieved. She was no wickedier than the fair average of dowagers. She had it on her conscience, however, that she had been mainly instrumental in her daughter's unhappy marriage with Lord Tintagel, who had seemed to her neither better nor worse than the average of middle-aged unmarried noblemen. Lord Tintagel was a proud, impetuous man of strong passions. He had been desperately enamoured of Alice Wolverstone, a lively fresh innocent of eighteen. Of course there was somebody else, who walked to perfection and was Lord Somebody's private secretary with four hundred a year, whom she would rather have married; but that was impossible. As it was, she dutifully accepted Lord Tintagel, because he was desperately in love with her, and was an Earl, with forty thousand a year; and because her mother had all along treated it as a matter of course that she was to marry him if he asked her. Lord Tintagel, who was a well-preserved man of three-and-forty, and not quite bald enough to wear a wig on his wedding-day, may have been disappointed by showery April weather in his bride's heavenly eyes damping the ardour of the wedding tour. His previous career may not have prepared him for the task of winning the sad young heart that had been handed over to him in the regular course of matrimonial business. A few months of patient self-denying kindness, a few occasions of tender and sympathetic insight into and consideration for the sad young heart's true condition, might have turned the momentous corner from behind which Love sometimes will spring up smiling from his ambush unaware. For there are happy marriages which begin, as Mrs. Malaprop recommends, with a little aversion. Love may have no appetite for the wedding breakfast, and lie *perdu*, napping through the honeymoon, and after all think better of it, and put on his seven-league boots, like Hop-o-my-Thumb, to overtake the wibegone pair on their journey. Why should we consider what might have been? We know that no such fortune befell Lord and Lady Tintagel. The bridegroom conceived that he had been deluded like Ixion, who, embracing his goddess, found the lovely vision dissolve in chill vapours. Like Ixion, the mythical prototype of rouds, he returned, after his dreary matrimonial experience, to the wheel of dissipation, on which his morality had been broken long ago.

His daughter, the Lady Julia, grew up under the tuition of a variety of accomplished governesses of various nationalities. She drifted about Europe with her father, to whom the social atmosphere of Continental capitals was more congenial than that of his native land. Paris, Vienna, Venice, Florence, Genoa, Madrid, Lisbon, he had tried, but for the last few years he had been domiciled in Naples.

Lady Julia Trebuchet was nearly seventeen when the news of her mother's death arrived. As she had no recollection of her mother, her feelings on the occasion mainly resolved themselves into the consideration of how she would look in deep mourning.

And in whose eyes was it important that the trappings and the suits of woe should not disfigure her? Her father had for some time been on more intimate terms with Lord De Vergund than any other of the English residents in Naples. Lord De Vergund, the Marquis de Vergund, was not much more than half Lord Tintagel's age; but his reputation had already attained, if possible, a deeper tint than that of the elder round. He was a picturesque-looking man of three-and-thirty, graceful in form and carriage. His manner had a sombre softness and *blasé* languor, relieved from monotony by an occasional sparkle of wicked intelligence and a touch of weird humour. He went delicately in black velvet and fine linen, and had a Vandyke air of Charles I. He never laughed. He seemed to take little interest or pleasure in talking to her; but when he did talk to her he succeeded, without any apparent effort, in interesting Lady Julia. He had a low, silvery utterance, and his sayings, to casual hearers, sounded dreamy and unconnected. For her they had point and meaning. His words seemed to answer her unspoken thoughts; his eyes seemed to see into her brain. There was a mystery about him, or, rather, there was something in his looks and manner, which, when she had woven and spangled a veil of mystery out of the resources of her own fertile imagination, it pleased her, in the absence of a better lay figure, to drape with mysterious attributes. He was handsome and wicked-looking. The Neapolitans said he had the evil eye; but the most unsuperstitious physiognomists must have allowed he had a dangerous look. His mind was subtle, but indolent. His main study had been the human passions. His own were rather the worse for wear. His oracular talk might mean anything. It is less trouble to talk in sublime staccato, and answers much better with imaginative young ladies, than to say too particularly what you mean.

The Marquis had been from his youth upwards more addicted to foreign parts than becomes a model English nobleman. He had inherited wealth and title early in life. His disposition was restless, impatient of all monotony, incapable of any pursuit which required persevering effort. He had the means of gratifying his fickle instincts, and his youth was spent in a maze of vagaries.

His wild-goose chase after pleasure had not been incumbered with such truly British impediments as conscientious scruples, or even those "light, portable substitutes adapted for foreign travel," discretion, and regard for appearances. During the patriotic intervals at which from time to time he had honoured his native country with his presence, he had not been scrupulous to wear any visible signs of a local and temporary respectability to gratify the rumours of his vagrant indiscretions. He rather took a delight in outraging respectability and defying public opinion. Public opinion and respectability dealt with his character accordingly.

They would, perhaps, have treated him still more severely if he had added pecuniary to moral recklessness. He possessed vast revenues, and he kept on the right side of his banker's book. He was not parsimonious. His mother and unmarried sister were handsomely enabled to keep up Adderborough, his principal seat in the county of Wilkes. In town they inhabited a commodious mansion in Berkeley-square.

De Vergund House itself was shut up; but consignments of pictures and statues arrived there every now and then, and were duly stored away in their matting bunks by the porter and portress, who on such occasions had any time the last dozen years expressed an opinion that "some of these days the Marquis meant cusekeeping after all." Respectability and public opinion, as well as the porter and portress, under these extenuating circumstances, reserved for the disreputable Marquis a problematical *locus penitentie* in marriage.

Lady Julia had not long satisfied herself that she looked well in deep mourning when the Marchioness De Vergund made an unexpected descent on Naples to look after her vagabond son, and brought with her his younger sister, Lady Ulrica. His elder sister had years before this date become Duchess of Trickleborough. The ambitious and energetic Dowager, after landing so great a Duke in her first venture with Lady Amelia, had no idea of condescending to commonplace offers for her second. Lady Ulrica was a very charming person; but, strange to say, she had reached the permanent age of twenty-seven, and was still on hand.

Lord Tintagel was a very old acquaintance of Lady De Vergund. They had walked together in the days when walking first began to turn the heads and twist the heels of British fashion, at the Carlton House ball, when the Regent was a "sweet, rascally young Prince," not yet turned fifty. The families became intimate. At first Lady Julia found Lady Ulrica delightful, and a model of an ideal grace. The mother, too, was a most amiable old lady. They were evidently anxious that "dear Mordant" should make an end of his vagrant and irregular life by marrying the rich and beautiful heiress. He had no great objection. He had wearied himself in the pursuit of pleasure, and begun to find perpetual change monotonous. He had tried almost everything but matrimony. Lady Julia was a fine girl as well as a great heiress. Moreover, there was a fire and energy of purpose in her that was attractive to the languid, inconsistent complexion of the man. She took an interest in him, too. Perhaps, after all, it was his destiny, he thought; for, being singularly devoid of moral or religious principles, the waste places in his mind, which should have been occupied by these respectable tenants, were haunted by vague superstitions and whims about luck. Human souls, however, unsworn with the true seed of faith, will in their decline follow be overrun by degenerate weeds of the credulous order. While the Marquis was carrying on a doubtful and smouldering courtship, confuted by distractions which we will leave in their slime below the surface of our limpid narrative, and waiting to see what destiny would bring to pass; his mother and sister found time and opportunity for a collateral enterprise which slid unsuspectingly out of the situation. Why should not Lord Tintagel espouse the Lady Ulrica? He seemed to take a more than paternal interest in her. He was hardly turned sixty. He had for fifteen years been fretting at the thought of his earldom's extinction. The perpetuation of his hereditary honours was with him the substitute for that yearning towards Eternity which in better men takes a higher and more spiritual form. The long term of quasi-widowhood, under an irremediable defect of heirs-male, rendered him a much more tractable subject for matrimonial scheming than long bachelorhood had rendered the younger nobleman. Under such conditions it is not to be wondered at that those experienced ladies soon began to devote most of their attention to the elderly man, leaving the junior arrangement to take care of itself. They discovered on better acquaintance that the Earl had no great affection for his daughter; and indeed, if he had, it would have been strange, knowing as much as he did of Lord De Vergund, that he allowed him to approach his daughter at all. Lord Tintagel had but few scruples about the moral qualifications of a possible son-in-law who would disembarass him of Lady Julia without calling upon him to make a sacrifice of his family pride. He knew his daughter well enough to be aware that her presence in a ménage of which she was not the female head would be an element of domestic disquiet; and as the Asperity of pedigree and connection were good enough for himself, they were a *fortiori* good enough for his daughter.

The reader being by this time in a position to know pretty much what all the rest of the parties concerned thought about it, we may as well take note of Lady Julia's point of view.

CHAPTER IV.

Lady Julia had but lately blossomed into womanhood. Her childhood had been passed in southern climes where fruit and human passions develop themselves early. She had seen a good deal of life in her wandering youth, and not under the most favourable auspices. She was treated by her father during childhood as an amusing toy, and encouraged rather than checked in her caprices and fantasies. Her accomplished governesses of varied nationality had taught her languages, and music, and dancing, and all that could be easily caught from them by a child of quick intelligence and vivid impulses. Piety, truth, and modesty, which are understood to form the subsoil of genuine English young-lady-culture, had, I fear, been as much neglected as astronomy and the use of the globes. The substitute for these virtues, which she had probably derived with her other acquisitions at the feet of her accomplished instructors, was a wonderfully premature perfection in the arts of dissimulation and dissimulation. She must have had some aesthetic appreciation of the virtues whose outward semblance she could assume at will; as the artificial florist grasps the wholesome reality of a fresh green leaf, which he proceeds to represent with a brilliancy beyond nature by a pigment in which arseniate of copper is the principal ingredient. It would have been in happier keeping and consistency that her feelings as well as her virtues should have been facitious. Her senses were genuine and vigorous. She had the fullest measure of a woman's capacity for loving and hating. Perhaps, if her good had prevailed over her evil star, and bestowed her first love on an honest man instead of Lord De Vergund, her character might have righted itself, and her career been diverted from a labyrinth of mischief. If, however, she had been all that the virtuous reader could desire of his or her own nearest female relatives, many worthy souls would have been spared the griefs and troubles she occasioned them, and these domestic annals need not have been written; for, as the happiest nations are those which have no history, so heroes and heroines of romance become so by virtue of the plots and machinations of which they are the innocent victims. Lady Julia Tremuchet is not to be the heroine but the wicked woman of this story. In all stories since the beginning of the world—or, at any rate, since the Trojan War—a wicked woman has always been at the bottom of it. As this veracious narrative is not an epic which can venture to rush in *medius res*, but a plain, unvarnished tale, it must begin with the beginning, and tackle the unpleasant task of explaining how the wicked woman became wicked.

Lord De Vergund, who, as will be seen hereafter, lived long enough to reap his fair share of the whirlwind, sowed the wind in a heart predisposed to the tempestuous eddies of passion. It had seemed pretty pastime to this weary-hearted libertine to play at courtship with a blooming child scarce halfway through her teens, and watch the gradual dawn of woman's tender instincts brighten in the liquid lustre of deepening eyes. He had been startled and embarrassed by the unexpected rapidity of the result. His tentative experimental philanderings were taken *au grand sérieux*. He had been totally misled as to the state of affairs by the perfect acting with which in his father's presence she had maintained towards himself a graceful girlish manner, where madly real and frank, unsuspecting simplicity were most naturally blended. But one summer's evening, when the tulinecked, bald-headed old Earl (who died in hearty earnest, and was sometimes remonst after his libations) snored in his armchair instead of a sofa, and Lord De Vergund and Lady Julia had the sunset and orange grove all to themselves. Being an immortal nobleman, more or less modelled on the Calde Harod type, he could not well avoid talking a little poetry in a desponding strain, of which the sinking luminary, the ripening fruit, and the suggestive orange blossom, formed the staple. His tone was shaded with a tender melancholy as he uttered his soft, dreamy nothings, and looked unutterable things. He certainly did not go so far as to make her what a properly-educated young lady would have considered a direct declaration of love; but Lady Julia was not a well-educated young lady.

Indirectly and metaphorically, as far as words were concerned, but unambiguously, as it seemed to her, in the more trustworthy language of the eye, he had long been asking her for love; and then and there she gave him all the love that was in her with a sudden shock of passion that took away his breath.

If I were a French writer I might take the line of sympathizing with this gushing young lady and describing the rapturous effusion of her first love scene in glowing detail. But, being a sober chronicler with insular prejudices, I confess I am ashamed of mentioning in the most cursory manner that a well-born maiden should have been so indiscreetly ready to plunge headlong into the first pseudo-romantic mess that offered itself. She accepted this pleasure-worn reprobate as the Heaven-sent hero of her precocious reveries; and when it has been said that the ardour with which she met his advances was startling even to such a lover, that is surely sufficient. This dénouement had taken place some time before Lady De Vergund's arrival, nay, before Lady Tintagel's death. It was agreed that it would be premature, for some time at least, to allow Lord Tintagel to perceive any change in his daughter's demeanour; and the Marquis, who had seen something of female powers of dissimulation in his time, was again surprised at the accuracy with which, in her father's presence, she resumed her accustomed manner, as if nothing had happened.

On this dangerous and discreditable condition of affairs Lady De Vergund and her daughter supervised. Female eyes are much more penetrating in their scrutiny than male. They soon made out so much as this—that Lady Julia was in love with dear Mordant, and that dear Mordant's intentions were doubtful. They got no further than this; observing that, as they succeeded in making a conquest of the father, dear Mordant's intentions waxed more dubious, and Julia grew anxious and unhappy about his slackening interest. They did not guess how deeply Lady Julia had reason to be unhappy and anxious. They did not know how the iron of his cold-blooded treachery had entered her soul. They perceived that a grave and gloomy change came over her, and they laid it to disappointed hopes and displeasure at her father's approaching marriage, which would cut down the magnificence of her heritage.

But Lady Julia had discovered the villainess of her heartless lover's life, and she read the whole conduct of his family in the light, or rather in the darkness, of that dreadful discovery. She understood it all too well when it was too late. He had wooed her for her wealth before her mother's death. And, when the possibility of her father's remarriage depreciated his sordid motive, he had brought those she-villains to fasten on the spoil, using his hold on her to promote their opportunities, dabbling meanwhile with the cool fingers of his filthy satirist in the hot lifeblood of her passionate affection. She allowed no outbreak of helpless wrath to escape her. There was no immediate remedy nor refuge. She thought of death, and put the thought away from her with a cold shudder. There was too much of the vigorous vitality of youth in her for self-destruction. She thought of other desperate deeds, in which the dagger and the bowl were to play the part of avengers instead of comforters. But the influence of the nineteenth century prevailed over impulses which, in a period of mediæval costume, might have taken tragic action. Lady Julia kept her counsel and resolved to bide her time. Opportunities of vengeance might come yet, and nothing could so much tend to avert such opportunities as inefficual recalcitration against the course of events. It was by this time a settled thing between Lord Tintagel and Lady Ulrica—that is to say, settled all but the settlements; and they were expanding rapidly with luxuriant parchment foliage and a magnificent promise of fruitage in round sums at Lincoln's Inn. Julia's manner towards her future stepmother was as pleasant and cordial as she knew how to make it. Old Lady De Vergund was obliged to allow that dear Julia behaved beautifully, and she had no patience with that heartless scapegrace Mordant deserting the poor child after making her fall in love with him. Her disappointment had told on her health and spirits; but with what courage she bore it! Not a word of complaint; only those terrible headaches—which, of course, meant heartaches—and accounted for symptoms of discomfort about the eyes. Weep! You might depend she did very little else when she was alone. Lady De Vergund had known young ladies who were not so tractable under their disappointments. Lady Ulrica thought her mother need not make side flings of that sort when she (Lady U) was running so straight as she was now. By which it appears that Lady Ulrica virtually confessed that on occasions she might have shied out of the guidance of the maternal rein, or even kicked over the traces of filial subjection.

CHAPTER V.

Lady Ulrica's nerves sustained the shock of her lover's unexpected appearance with greater firmness than had been anticipated. Nor was Lady De Vergund so much perplexed and alarmed as tended to show any vehement distrust of her daughter's worldly wisdom. The terms of the settlement, which had passed under discussion, were so highly satisfactory, and Lady Ulrica had thrown overboard many ardent but unsuitable admirers in her time, and had grown so weary of the arduous uncertainties and galling restraints of fashionable spinsterhood under an ambitious parent's surveillance, that she was not likely to sacrifice a really good thing now it was within her reach. Lord Tintagel was in great good humour with himself and the world at large, and welcomed his unexpected guests with cordial hospitality, unclouded by the slightest suspicion.

Delighted to see you again, Gaveloch, my dear boy! And Mr. Strensal too; glad to make your acquaintance. Son of my old friend Edmund Strensal, who sat for Balderdash? His grandson! How time flies! I was seven years in the Commons with him. Man of great weight with the county members. And so Julia laid an embargo upon you at once? Quite right, Julia. Young men of the night sort don't drift ashore every day in these latitudes. Lady Ulrica, too, will be glad to hear some of the latest gossip. The last new batches of matches—who has run away with who? Poor Lady Ulrica is terribly tired of us unfashionable old fogies.

Lady Ulrica was shaking hands with Lord Gaveloch, and over the cordial pressure of her grasp glanced a beaming smile of intelligence in answer to the old foggy pleasantry. Between the smile and the squeeze Lord Gaveloch's mind misgave him as to the result of his expedition. And when he got the opportunity of saying those important words to her (it was at the piano after dinner, when she was playing a grand rolling symphony that drowned the wretched words in a flood of noble sounds) she only told him that he was a foolish boy; he ought, instead of crying out before he was hurt, to be very glad of this marriage. How could he be glad of it when he wanted to marry her himself? Didn't he see he couldn't do that. And what was the next best thing? Why, of course, to marry this horrid old man and be free. A pretty sort of freedom! Did he know what sort of slavery it was to be under the perpetual custody of such a mother? Any sort of husband was better than that. Had she ceased to love him then? How could he ask her such a question? "You know I love you." She set the words in a low recitative to the loud music:—

You know I love you, and you know
That I must wed against my will.
I cannot break the chain; but oh
Sweet heart of hearts, I love you still!
A captive in the gilded show
Vengeance will in my soul I nurse.
False priest, read on the solemn curse
That binds me to my doom for aye.
Vain words, for better or for worse,
Which lips may form while hearts I swear.
Love from this breast you cannot tear,
Nor fare out of the universe.

As she sang these wicked stanzas among the thunder, wind, and hail of the stormy symphony, in a tone quite inaudible to the rest of the party, on whom her back was turned, she looked up into the young man's eyes with an expression in which melting passion and wilful, cold-blooded treachery were strangely mingled. Her beauty was of a soft, voluptuous type, which bore no stamp of high-pitched morality; but Lord Gaveloch had never imagined such a nature as now revealed itself to him could have lain hid under the mask of that gentle, coaxing, playful, yet thoroughly refined and ladylike manner. "Good heavens!" he said to himself, "my mother was right

about her after all;" and the thought of marrying Lady Ulrica went out suddenly in his mind like a miner's lamp in chokedamp. Probably Lady Ulrica meant that it should do so. Had his love been of a nobler kind, had his passion for the woman gone hand in hand with his soul's approval of the wife he had blindly sought to clasp into his existence, that passion would have been extinguished by the same deadly draught. But the baser instinct flared high with the long, lurid flame which forebodes the fatal explosion. "There! are you satisfied?" she added, after watching for a moment to see the passion take effect on his moral system. "Go now, and be very discreet. Avoid me as much as possible and be very attentive to Julia: that will be useful both now and hereafter."

Lord Gaveloch, who felt as if his head was spinning round and round, drew his hand across his brow, and in doing so became conscious of Lady De Vergund's eyes being fixed upon him with severe scrutiny. Lord Tintagel had fallen asleep over the music, as was his custom, in an armchair near her ladyship. Lord De Vergund was looking stealthily over the edge of a French brochure at Lady Julia and Strensal, who seemed deep in some interesting subject of conversation. These last were nearer to the piano than the others.

They had been standing about it along with Lord Gaveloch during Lady Ulrica's songs; but when she went into the long symphony they had sat down at a convenient distance, so as still to form an apparent adjunct to the piano group without being in the way. Lady Julia was not so absorbed in her conversation as to miss the moment when the confidence, under cover of the symphony, came to an end. Then she rose and approached. When Lord Tintagel woke from his nap at the close of the symphony he saw his daughter talking to Lord Gaveloch with animation, and Mr. Strensal puzzling himself over the words of a Sicilian song.

"A thousand thanks! Those songs were really angelic. Julia, it is your turn now; we must not impose too much on dear Lady Ulrica's amiable readiness to delight our ears."

The Earl had risen with youthful grace and alacrity to prepare a seat for the angelic songstress as she came radiantly back to her mother's wing. She allowed herself to be a little diverted from the wing to the position gallantly indicated, where the venerable turtle-dove, perching himself hard by, began to coo still softer and tenderer compliments in the ear of his affianced.

Lady Julia led off with a brisk rattling piece of French music, playing without book. "How do you prosper, Lord Gaveloch?" she said. "Come, tell us, is it going to be all right?" asked Strensal.

"Very doubtfully, if prospering at all, and more likely I fear to turn out all wrong."

"But I know that she did not bid you give up all hopes," said Lady Julia.

"How do you know that; at least, what led you to make such a guess?"

"I saw by your face that when you had spoken to her she did not respond satisfactorily at first, but then she said something that brightened you; after that you seemed surprised and a little shocked, and your expression underwent a change that I did not understand; but your anxiety had disappeared, and I thought if papa woke up just then he would not have liked the way you were looking down into Lady Ulrica's face. Her mother seemed rather fidgety too, but she can't see very clear without her spectacles, so we thought it better to come to your assistance."

"That was very kind of you," Lord Gaveloch had begun to feel that his sympathisers and abettors were a little too accurate in their researches on his behalf.

"Well, what had she to say for herself?" asked Strensal.

"Why, she tried to convince me that she was bound in honour to Lord Tintagel."

"What! after telling you her sentiments could never change, and all that, before she left England?" said Strensal. "A first engagement is surely more binding in honour than a second."

"She takes the line of treating our plighted faith as conditional, and depending on the removal of impediments which are unremoved; whereas the present arrangement is absolute."

"But what was there to reassure you in that?" said Lady Julia. "What was it gave your hopes a fresh spring?"

"Why, she spoke so kindly of my love, and hoped so sincerely that we might remain friends after all, and pitied me so much in my bitter disappointment, that I could not help thinking I held a place in her affections still, and while that lasts there is always hope."

Lady Julia shook her head, and was on the point of reproaching Lord Gaveloch with the sudden reserve which had come over him, when she perceived reflected in his face the approach of some one.

"When you have finished that charming fantasia, will you give us some of your still more charming songs?" said Lord De Vergund. "Is that the condition your lady mother disturbed you with in your profound studies just now?"

"Nothing disturbs me; disturbance is a luxury of youth."

"We, in our inexperienced innocence, thought one of the troubles of age."

"Youth has its eager interests, age is only tenacious of its comforts. There is a current alike in the flow and the ebb of life's river."

"Are we to congregate like you on floating like a tranquil corpse on the dead water of middle age?" Here Lady Julia suddenly changed her head; the cheerful music died away into a dirgelike plaint, and she sang—

What were life had hope departed,
Broken-hearted,
Out of breath?
Mournful, weary, listless, lonely,
Life were only
Living death.
Hopeless life is lingering death.

At the end of the first stanza Lady Julia stopped short with the song and took up the fantasia.

"Are we to have no more of the lingering death than that? It is more like sudden death. Can't you linger on through a few more stanzas?"

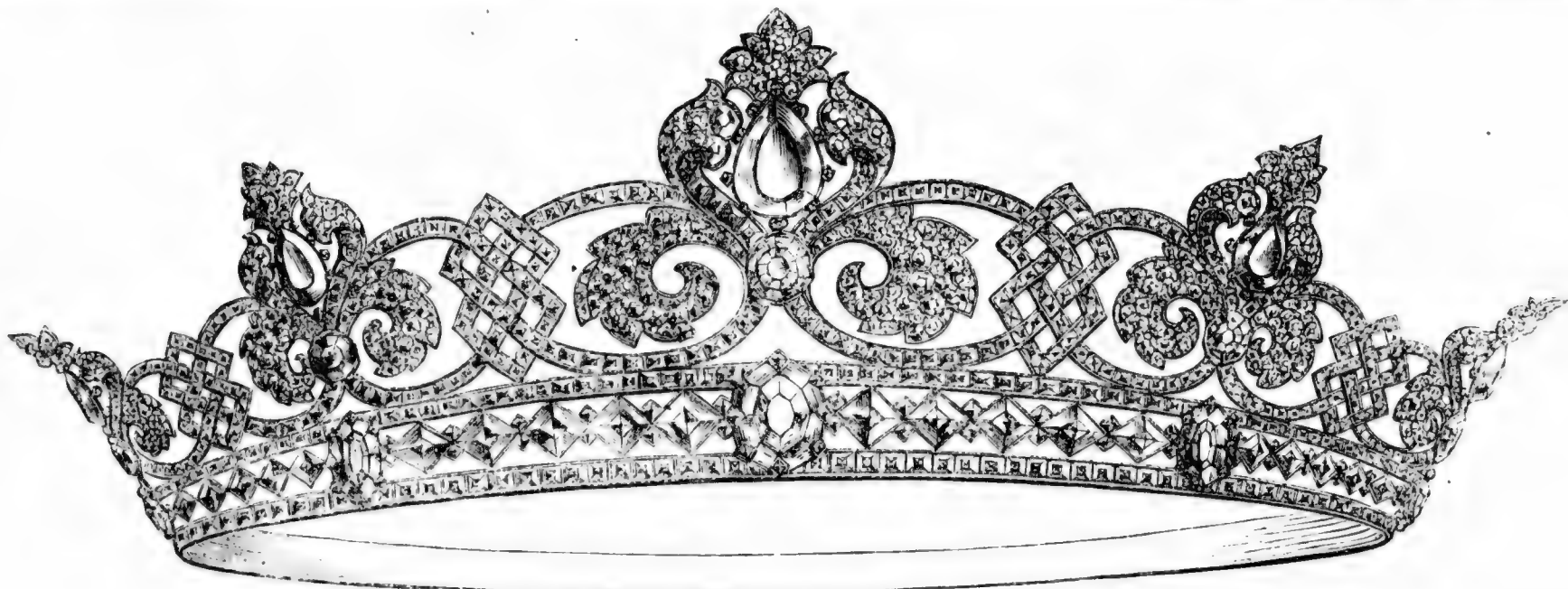
"I don't like the other stanzas," she said, carelessly, and Mr. Strensal, whose ears were a little sharpened to catch the tone of communication between the speakers, thought he detected a slight tinge of bitterness.

"The air is very sweet and plaintive," he said, "and was probably composed to words that really meant something in some other language, and which were difficult to translate into anything but non-sensical verses in English, where the peculiar movement and the double rhymes would be rather unmanageable. The nonsense would be sure to degenerate as it went on, but the air might be some pathetic Hungarian lament for liberty."

"That would be much nicer. You talk learnedly about movements and double rhymes. Perhaps you are a poet, and could make me some new words with a patriotic theme, instead of the wretched sighing and dying." Mr. Strensal blushed slightly in acknowledgment of the poetic imputation, and she went on. "Then I may as well sing you the other stanzas, nonsense or not. They may suggest something better:—

Out of breath with weary sighing, Hope a dying, Gasping now!	Wreath a smile! oh breathe a murmur!
Healing spell! ah, who can wreath it?	Hope's confinner, Doubts release.
Who can breathe it? Darling, thou!	Let me, faith eternal swearing, From despairing Torments cease.
Wreath it, breathe it, darling, thou!	From despairing torments cease.

These stanzas, with all deductions to their disparagement, having been in a manner refused to Lord De Vergund and performed for Mr. Strensal's benefit, the Marquis made a languid gesture of applause and cried, "Brava, Signorina! I never heard you sing it with more expression; and the words don't seem such nonsense, do they, Mr. Strensal?" If there was any magnetic fascination in Lord De Vergund's eye it operated negatively, for when Strensal caught its expression he felt a distinct inclination to knock it out, whether the expression only or the eye along with it he did not stop to consider. He replied rather dogmatically, "They are not absolute nonsense, but they are namby-pamby stuff, without earnestness



DIAMOND CORONET PRESENTED TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA BY THE PRINCE OF WALES.



DIAMOND AND OPAL NECKLACE PRESENTED TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS ALEXANDRA BY THE PRINCE OF WALES.



OPAL AND DIAMOND BROOCHES, AND ONE OF THE EARRINGS EN SUITE, PRESENTED TO THE PRINCESS BY HER MAJESTY.
DIAMOND NECKLACE AND EARRINGS PRESENTED TO PRINCESS ALEXANDRA BY THE CITY OF LONDON.

or passion—mere rhyming millinery trimmed to a pattern, and quite unworthy of the sad, serious melody. Such words must have been written either by some dilettante trifler stringing together old scraps at his lukewarm leisure, or a musiceller's hack poet working at half-a-crown per stanza." Strensal's criticism was, perhaps, more severe than it would have been if his combative and destructive instincts had not been aroused by some element of offence in Lord De Vergund's manner both towards Lady Julia and himself; and, like other critics, he fell upon the first victim that offered a vent for the slashing virus. However, he was taking Lady Julia's side, and using strong language against something which had received De Vergund's quasi protection. Lady Julia gave the Marquis a look that seemed to say, "There is a nasty one for you." She felt strongly inclined to mention the name of the dilettante trifler. For De Vergund himself was the culprit, and had written the stanzas especially for her when they were on very different terms; and she greatly enjoyed seeing him swallow the bitter draught which Strensal poured out from the random vials of his wrath. The indignant author retired from the piano; but the discussion of Lord Gaveloch's prospects was not resumed. A few more songs were sung, and then the Vergund party went away as soon as their carriages were announced, none of them in the very best of humours. Their drive home was enlivened by a few growls from the old lady on Gaveloch's arrival and her daughter's behaviour. Her son added something pleasant about Mr. Strensal—"a confounded bumptious young prig!"

Lady Ulrica, being in a contradictory mood, thought him noble-looking, manly, and intelligent. She admired his stature, breadth of shoulders, depth of chest, and dignity of carriage. Nay, she insisted that his whiskers and the setting on of his head among the short curls were like the colossal busts of the Emperor Commodus in the Museo Borbonico.

"Why didn't you go and make love to him, then?" asked the amiable brother.

"I will not miss another opportunity, as you recommend me, but I fear it is too late. He would not make a bid for me with my engagements; and my age tells against me so heavily in a handicap with your dear Julia. How do you feel about dear Julia, eh, Mordant?"

"—dear Julia!"

When the carriage had driven away the young men took their leave also, receiving a general invitation to come when they liked, and especially to dine next Sunday. Strensal went away the happiest of the two, carrying with him a not altogether rapturous, but on the whole, exhilarating impression of Lady Julia's charms culminating in the cordial pressure of her hand and pleasant smile at parting. As they lit their cigars and walked up the approach they were both thinking what a change had come over their respective frames of mind since they entered that terrestrial paradise through the tunnel, from which they shortly emerged upon the moonlit road and walked back into Naples.

"How much for going at it neck and crop?" said Strensal, as they reached the corner of the Villa Reale.

"How much, indeed! I have fallen flat. When once I began to listen to Lady Julia I was floated away hopelessly on the stream of circumstances. If we had found them all there instead of her alone?"

"You would have made a pretty mess of it!"



LORD GAVELOCH'S PASSION FOR ULRICA MEETS WITH A DECIDED CHECK

"That, indeed, I should."

"Lady Julia gave you very good advice."

"Yes. I wonder what that girl's game is. She has something on hand on her own account."

"What do you mean?"

"What was she weeping about under the cedar-tree when I found her?"

"Was she weeping? Poor child! No doubt this marriage makes her unhappy. Indeed, she confessed as much."

"I don't understand her manner to De Vergund."

"She evidently dislikes him as much as he deserves—an effeminate, lackadaisical, sententious, Bulwerian coxcomb, with mysterious, black velvety, languishing airs. He looks as if he was made to be kicked, without hurting an honest man's foot. The sight of him almost took away my appetite for dinner, though the fishes of the Mediterranean and the steward of the Mongibello know I had reason to be hungry; and the sound of his voice, mincing me'odious fragments of sublime bosh, sets my teeth on edge. I should say there was as much conscience in him as there is backbone in a collared eel—a collared cobra, rather."

"Perhaps Lady Julia may have more reason to dislike him than we wot of. I would advise you to think twice before you give your heart into that bewitching young lady's keeping. They are a shyish lot, take them altogether."

"With the exception, of course, of the peerless Ulrica?"

"Unfortunately, she is not peerless; nor does she seem disposed to part with her peer; and, between you and me, I don't feel nearly so much disposed as I did this morning to snatch her from his elderly arms."

"You have indeed fallen flat. I promised you this morning to be sympathetically infatuated, and now you have suddenly turned the corner of your delirium, and show your sanity by giving me good advice. So I am to beware of falling a victim to Lady Julia because she is found among what you call a shyish lot? You might well say there was little use in preparing schemes of action beforehand."

"You know in your heart you are glad I am come to my senses about Ulrica. I see clearly she does not care for me in a way that would fulfil my ideal of a wife's devotion. She is mercenary and unscrupulous. My father and mother were right. The De Vergund lot are bad, root and branch. I have made an infernal fool of myself, and I beg your pardon for bringing you on a wild-goose chase. I only hope we may both get back safe and sound. I don't know what poor dear Lady Matilda would say if I was the means of getting her precious boy entangled with such a girl as Lady Julia."

"Such a girl! and me a precious boy—you have grown prematurely old in your sudden access of wisdom. By Jove! I think, as well as I can see by moonlight, your whiskers are turned white."

"Never mind; we will get some hairdye. Naples is a great place for cosmetics and perfumery. Here is our hotel; and there's my man smoking at the gateway. Halloo, François! You got here all right, and the luggage through the douane?"

"Oui, milord. Milord et Monsieur, voudraient-ils souper?"

"Not I; nor you? Eau de soude, François. Quel numéro avons-nous?"

"Vingt-six et vingt-sept, milord. Et le salon vingt-huit."

(To be continued.)



SCENE AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE ON THE NIGHT OF THE ROYAL MARRIAGE.

LAW AND CRIME.

A CONVICT named Preedy was tried at Dorchester for the murder of a warder at Portland, in September last. The crime was committed under peculiarly atrocious circumstances, and without, at least, immediate provocation. The warder was collecting the tins and knives used by the prisoners at their meals, when Preedy rushed upon him and stabbed him in the neck, turning the knife in the wound to render the hurt more certainly fatal. During the trial, and while a witness for the prosecution was giving evidence, the following scene occurred in court:—

The prisoner became dreadfully excited, as if in a paroxysm of rage, and attempted to jump over the dock. He was prevented by the warders, but it required six men to hold him. He bit his clothes and tore his sleeves into ribbons. He kicked at and endeavoured to bite those around him. Finding that he could not vent his passion upon anyone, he bit the wooden bar over the dock and swallowed the wood. He tried to knock his head against the dock, and was with difficulty prevented. The excitement in the court was intense. He was ultimately overpowered, and iron was placed on him. Mr. Good, the surgeon, went up to him, and told him that he had promised him faithfully not to do it, and said that it was all out on, and that he had done so before. He frantically cried out, "Shake hands with me," and on Mr. Good saying he would not, he raved and kicked to such an extent that it was with great difficulty he could be held. Mr. Good and a warder endeavoured to persuade him to be quiet, and he ultimately became more composed. He was, however, held by six men with his head over the dock for some time. Some conversation then took place between the surgeon and the Judge, and the result was that his Lordship was satisfied the prisoner knew well enough what was going on, and the trial was ordered to proceed. The prisoner then again broke out, and the iron was put on. A large strap, placed round his legs, was broken by him as if it had been a piece of tape. Finding he could still use his legs, he commenced kicking, and iron was placed upon them. The prisoner, though small in stature, possesses wonderful power and strength, and although he was encased almost in iron he resisted violently, and was obliged to be held by five men. The prisoner at last appeared exhausted, and remained with his head lying on the side of the dock. When he recovered a little he renewed the struggle, but was overpowered. Business was suspended for upwards of two hours.

Evidence was taken on the question of the prisoner's sanity, but the medical testimony was entirely against the defence which was attempted on this point. He was found guilty of the crime charged, and sentenced to death.

In the matter of one Browning, a bankrupt, an application to prove a debt occasioned a report which, if true as recorded by our contemporaries, contains matters well worth public investigation. The bankrupt was imprisoned twenty years ago, and appears to have preferred remaining in gaol to paying the claims upon him, which were heavy. The recent Bankruptcy Act leaves, however, no such option to prisoners for debt. It now appears that during the time of his incarceration Browning has retained the place of *custos brevium*, keeper of certain records to the Court of Common Pleas, and that, owing to his inability or disinclination to spend the salary thereby accruing, this has accumulated until his assets are nearly, if not entirely, sufficient to pay his debts. We would most humbly beg to recommend this case to the attention of our Parliamentary financial reformers. We think the public ought to be informed of the exact duties and emoluments of an office which it appears can be so satisfactorily fulfilled in gaol as to enable a prisoner to retain it for twenty years. Have those records of the Commons Pleas been deposited in the debtors' prison? If not, who has performed Browning's duties, at what salary, and by whom paid? If such duties can be performed by a deputy, at an inferior scale of payment, or can be dispensed with altogether without inconvenience, it really seems to us that the nation might well have had the benefit of the difference instead of Browning's creditors.

The policy of the Home Office, as displayed in its treatment of criminals, has received a severe reproof in a majority of two to one in favour of administering corporal punishment for robberies accompanied by personal violence. It is not for us here to recapitulate the arguments for and against the sentencing garters to the hangman's whip. We, however, hold with the proposal for its appliance, not because we would desire to see it carried out, but because we are justified in anticipating, from the simple terror of the punishment, the cessation of the crime which it is intended to check. The crime is not one of the numerous class attributable to human frailty. It is one which is always coolly conceived, one in which chances of punishment are always calculated before its commission, and one of which the perpetrator invariably belongs to the most degraded and cruel type of criminals. One of its opponents expresses his repugnance at the thought of a fellow creature being "lashed like a dog." Our sympathies certainly tend in an opposite direction, since we should rather object to any dog being lashed as the garrotter ought to be. If such a punishment could be merited by any canine creature it would be far better to put the animal out of the way of committing any further offence. We believe the impending probability of the lash will, however, put a most effectual stop to the crime. If a garrotter, knowing the chances to which he subjects himself by his favourite offence, chooses voluntarily to encounter them, the argument stands certainly rather in favour of rendering such chances still more unfavourable than of encouraging him to commit the crime by maintaining a mistaken lenity of punishment.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

THE amount of business done in Home Securities this week, both for Money and Time, has been very moderate, and the quotations have been with difficulty supported. Consols, for Money, have been at 91 1/2; 3 1/2 per cent. at 91 1/2; 4 1/2 per cent. at 91 1/2; 5 per cent. at 91 1/2; 6 per cent. at 91 1/2; 7 per cent. at 91 1/2; 8 per cent. at 91 1/2; 9 per cent. at 91 1/2; 10 per cent. at 91 1/2; 11 per cent. at 91 1/2; 12 per cent. at 91 1/2; 13 per cent. at 91 1/2; 14 per cent. at 91 1/2; 15 per cent. at 91 1/2; 16 per cent. at 91 1/2; 17 per cent. at 91 1/2; 18 per cent. at 91 1/2; 19 per cent. at 91 1/2; 20 per cent. at 91 1/2; 21 per cent. at 91 1/2; 22 per cent. at 91 1/2; 23 per cent. at 91 1/2; 24 per cent. at 91 1/2; 25 per cent. at 91 1/2; 26 per cent. at 91 1/2; 27 per cent. at 91 1/2; 28 per cent. at 91 1/2; 29 per cent. at 91 1/2; 30 per cent. at 91 1/2; 31 per cent. at 91 1/2; 32 per cent. at 91 1/2; 33 per cent. at 91 1/2; 34 per cent. at 91 1/2; 35 per cent. at 91 1/2; 36 per cent. at 91 1/2; 37 per cent. at 91 1/2; 38 per cent. at 91 1/2; 39 per cent. at 91 1/2; 40 per cent. at 91 1/2; 41 per cent. at 91 1/2; 42 per cent. at 91 1/2; 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